



FIRST NEW PHOTOS FROM THE SET OF EPISODE III

STAR WARS

INSIDER

INDIANA JONES

DVD PREVIEW

WHAT COULD YOU GET FOR

\$100?

1ST EVER COLLECTOR CHALLENGE

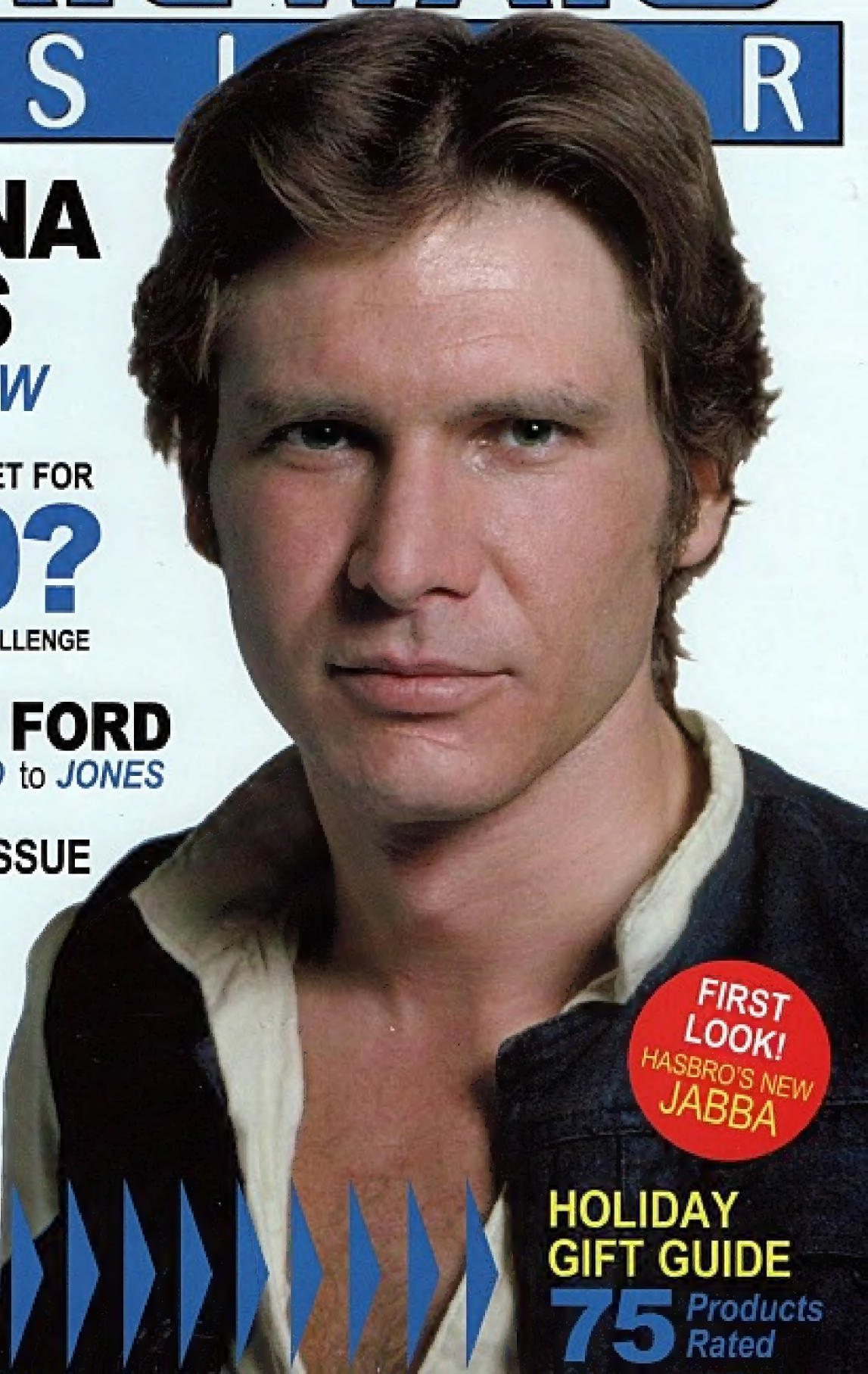
HARRISON FORD

On Heroes from *SOLO* to *JONES*

COLLECTIBLES ISSUE

An Exclusive Tour of
Steve Sansweet's
Colossal Collection

STAR WARS
MODEL KITS



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Insider 71

Features

Prequel Update

Rick's too busy to talk much this month—instead he sent these fabulous photos.

Insider's Holiday Gift Guide

by Vic Wertz

Our second annual list of suggestions for what to buy Star Wars fans who have everything.

The Sansweet Collection

by Justin Lambros

Take an exclusive tour through one of the world's most fabulous fan collections: Steve Sansweet's own Star Wars museum.

A Fistful of Credits

by Pete Vilmar

Five collecting teams go in, and all five come out with the best collectibles \$100 can buy.

Assembly Required

by Jay Chladek

Sometimes the best collectible is one you have to build yourself.

Museum Piece

by Dave Gross

At last, the Indiana Jones movies are available on DVD. Here's how digital restoration and documentary filmmaking helped them get there.

Keep It Moving

by Ron Magid

Veteran model maker Lorne Peterson recalls the challenges and triumphs of creating visual effects for the adventures of Indiana Jones.

Hero

by Gabriele Tcharner-Patao

While Harrison Ford is ready for a few laughs, he's still primed to don the hat and crack the whip one more time.

On the Cover

The name's Solo. Han Solo. This smuggler is so much cooler than the British guy with the wee little gun that the only hero we think comes close is, well, Indiana Jones.



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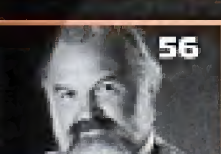
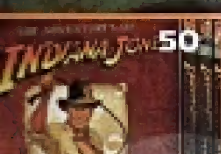
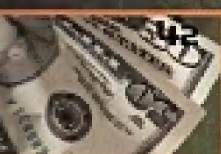
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Bantha Tracks

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82 Crossword

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After solving this puzzle, you can amaze your fellow Star Wars fans at karaoke... as long as they don't shoot first after hearing the puns.

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No, the Jawas were not driving under the influence. The cemetery was like that when they got there.

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Number One Fan.

Show & Tell

It's about the Stories



One of the best parts of collecting is showing off your acquisitions and getting a chance to tell the stories that accompany each item.

Sometimes the story is where the item has been. My partner, Lisa, and I have a vintage Kenner action figure proof card that was accompanied by an index card that has been with it for several years. The index card lists the name and city of everybody who has owned it, revealing that it has traveled across the United States more than a couple of times. Its arrival in our collection actually marked the second time it had a home in Seattle. As far as we're concerned, it's in our collection to stay, but it's fun to think about how it got here.

Sometimes the story is how the item was made. We have a very early mock-up model of Kenner's 1983 Ewok Village playset created from sticks and bark from a Kenner employee's back yard. It was certainly never meant to last twenty years, but it's still in great condition and is remarkably close to the final product.

Sometimes, the story is just that the item exists at all. Lisa and I were surprised that Lucasfilm and Disney agreed to create beer mugs, cocktail shakers, and other barware marked with a "Mos Eisley Cantina" logo for sale at Disney theme parks. Even Steve Sansweet was surprised when he learned that Lucasfilm authorized a *Star Wars* slot machine in Germany.

Sometimes it's personal. I have a Boba Fett action figure that looks exactly like thousands of other Fett figures out there, but this one is special. It's the item that brought me back to collecting *Star Wars* after a 15-year hiatus. I collected the first 45 or so vintage action figures in the '70s and '80s, but I "grew out of collecting." When I first heard that Hasbro was bringing back *Star Wars* action figures in 1995, I was curious but didn't buy any. Several months later, Lisa brought Boba home as a gift, and the collecting instinct kicked back in; suddenly, I had to have them all. Next thing I knew, we're building a new house with rooms set aside to display our collection.

When you tell a story, if you're lucky, you'll get a story back. During a visit with Steve Sansweet, Lisa and I tried to come up with something—anything—Steve didn't have. Lisa told Steve about our Princess Leia necklace. According to the story, Lucasfilm's costume designer approached a jewelry designer to have a necklace made for Leia to wear in the ceremony at the end of *A New Hope*. The jeweler didn't have time to make a new necklace, so he convinced the production to use one he had already created. Our necklace is not the one used in the movie, but it's from that same limited-edition run. Steve said that he didn't have such a necklace, but Josh Ling, who was working with Steve at the time, maintained that Steve did. So Josh searched Steve's collection and turned up a jewelry bag that contained not only one of the necklaces but also a handwritten note from the jeweler giving thanks that his design had been selected for the film. So now Steve's story gets to be part of our story, the moral of which is that you just shouldn't bother trying to compete with Steve Sansweet's collection—or his collecting stories.

What's your best collecting story? Drop us a line at Rebel Rumblings.

-Vic Wertz

Vic Wertz
Associate Editor

The convention season is a great time for us at Insider, because we get to meet so many of you in person. From Disney Weekends to Origins, from the San Diego Comic-Con to the Gen Con Game Fair, and at Chicago's Wizard World and all the fan breakfasts at those events, it was a great pleasure to meet you and talk Star Wars. If you enjoyed some of those events, your hero is Mary Franklin, editor of Bantha Tracks, marketing guerilla, and bartender extraordinaire. If you aren't already a Fan Club member, you can thank Mary by joining, and then you'll see her Bantha Tracks section in every other issue of Star Wars Insider.

If we didn't get a chance to meet you this convention season, let us know how you spent those summer months pursuing your Star Wars dream. Did you add to your collection? Invite some friends for a Classic Trilogy marathon? Did you paint the Death Star on your van? Drop us a line, send us a photo, and keep in touch.

Desperately Seeking Bruce

Help me, Star Wars Insider. You're my only hope.

I met a guy named Bruce this year at Star Wars Weekends at MGM Studios in Orlando, FL. We hung out, had some laughs. He asked for my number, but like an idiot, I gave the wrong area code. It's 321, not 407. It changed a while ago, and well, it was hot out there that day. To make a long story short, I was hoping—no, praying—that you would put his picture in your magazine and kind of tell what happened. And then he could call me. I know he reads this magazine, because that's how he knew about Star Wars Weekends. I would love to talk to him again!

**PAM JAMIESON
MELBOURNE, FL**

As much as we'd like to print the picture of this handsome Devaronian, there's always the chance that Bruce is a scoundrel with a wife who reads Insider, and one of our goals in life is never



to contribute a show to Jerry Springer. So in wise Jedi fashion, we'll leave it at first names for now. Bruce, if you're on the level and reading this, give Pam a call. If you've lost her number, contact us, and we'll pass your info to her. If everything works out, all we ask is that you name your first-born "Insider."



Met Him in a Swamp Down in Dagobah

With all the license plates published in your magazine, I was surprised not to see YODA. What better Star Wars reference for a license plate than the ultimate Jedi Master—and it fits on a license plate without abbreviations! I've also included pictures of my then-15-month-old son Taylor in his Yoda costume. Thanks for a great magazine, and keep up the great work!

**TODD GAGEL
LOUISVILLE, KY**

Rebel Rumblings, continued on page 63

Wanna Rumble?

Write to: REBEL RUMBLINGS, 3245 146th Place SE, Suite 110, Bellevue, WA 98007 or email swinsider@palco.com. Letters may be edited for clarity and space considerations. All mail MUST include your FULL NAME and HOME CITY. Star Wars Insider is not responsible for any unsolicited material received. All material sent to "Rebel Rumblings" becomes the property of Lucasfilm, Ltd. Due to time constraints and the volume of letters received, individual responses are not possible.

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PREQUEL

EPISODE III PHOTO GALLERY



Photo by Paul Tiller.

lend her a hand? Sophie Fleming, Prosthetic Make-Up Technician, hardly seems to need another as she works on some appendage-shy Aqualish hands in the Episode III Creatures Department.

He's really not much without his fur, but Axel Dench gets fitted for a Wookiee costume by (left) Nerissa Box, Fabrication Assistant, and Lou Elsey, Fabrication Supervisor.



Photo by Paul Tiller.

UPDATE₇₁

If a picture's worth a thousand words, here's an epic update from Fox Studios in Sydney, Australia. After passing the half-way mark, production is so intense that producer Rick McCallum must let these images do his talking this time. Join us next issue for more photos from the set of Episode III, along with a special interview with Rick and members of the crew as shooting on the final Star Wars movie draws to a close.

Carpenter Marco Lunny works on the hallway of a large ship whose appearance will provide a major connection between Episode III and the Classic trilogy.



Photo by Paul Filer.

PREQUEL UPDATE 71



Photo by Paul Filer.

Animation Director Rob Coleman (left), Visual Effects Supervisor John Knoll, and Production Designer Gavin Bocquet discuss new designs in the Episode III Art Department at Fox Studios Australia.



Photo by Merrick Morton

"But it clearly says right here that..."

Watching the director read his script are (clockwise from left) Mousy McCallum, the Producer's daughter; Jacquie Louez, Assistant to the Producer; Producer Rick McCallum; Jamella Hassan, Wardrobe Key Standby; and Director George Lucas.

Hayden Christensen, back as a more powerful and more troubled Anakin Skywalker in Episode III, stands for a camera test on the set of a rebuilt Padmé's apartment on Stage 1 at Fox Studios Australia.



Photo by Merrick Morton



Photo by Paul Tiller

We know it's winter in Australia, but really! A Wookiee suit is custom-made to fit the body cast underneath by the Costume Department under the lead of Creature Shop Supervisor Dave Elsey.



Photo by Paul Tiller

Old friends? Back together again, R2-D2 and C-3PO (Anthony Daniels) reunite for their sixth *Star Wars* movie—but note whose name is on the dressing room door.

An Australian construction worker builds a vent shaft for the huge Trade Federation cruiser set on Stage 2.



Photo by Paul Tiller.



Photo by Paul Tilley.

Surrounded by a sea of greenscreen and awaiting the next set-up are Colin Fletcher, 1st Assistant Director, David Tattersall, Director of Photography, Director George Lucas, and Eddie Knight, Gaffer.

How many technicians does it take to mark a droid's place? Apparently a lot, as a somewhat grumpy R2-D2 awaits his close-up patiently in the lobby of the Trade Federation cruiser.



Photo by Merrick Morton



Photo by Merrick Morton

"Would you care for tea . . . or blue milk?" Senators Giddean Danu (Chris Kirby, left) and Bana Breemu (Bai Ling) pay a visit to Senator Padmé Amidala's apartment on Coruscant.

Oh my! C-3PO (Anthony Daniels) is back in all his golden splendor. Here, on a set that will become the veranda of Padmé's apartment, he turns away from the Senator's handmaidens Ellé (Chantel Freer) and Moteé (Kristy Wright).

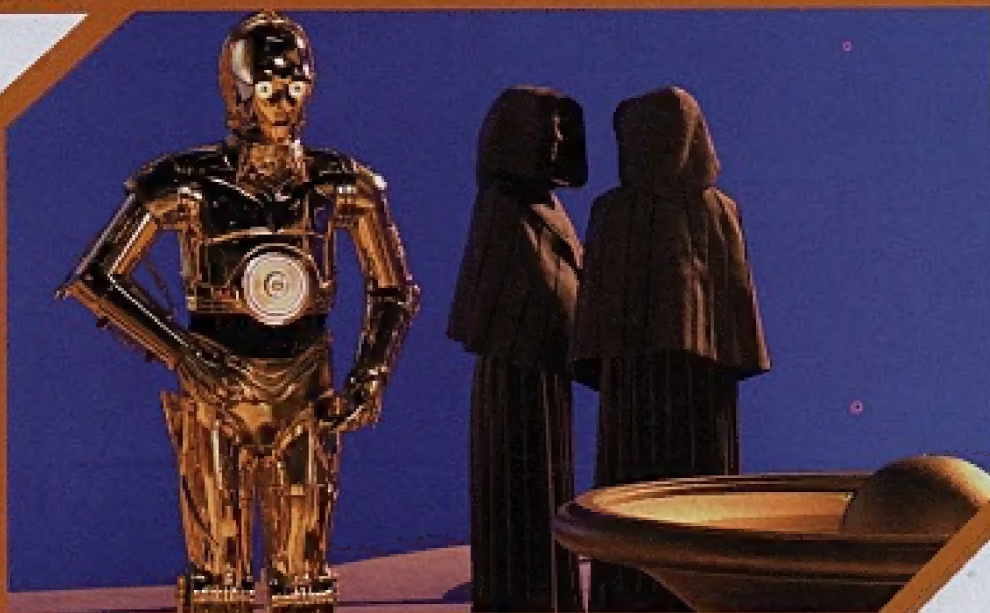


Photo by Merrick Morton



Photo by Merrick Morton

Jo Thorpe, Standby-Wardrobe, helps returning actor Jai Laga'aia (Captain Typho) get spiffed up for his scene as Michael Mooney, Assistant Costume Designer, adjusts the captain's hat.

Producer Rick McCallum and Visual Effects Supervisor John Knoll watch the action on a nearby clone landing platform.



Photo by Merrick Morton



Photo by Merrick Morton

The ever-more-powerful Supreme Chancellor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid) directs much of the Episode III action from his office complex on Coruscant.

The depth to which set designers and decorators go to create the full illusion of a galaxy far, far away shows in the control panels in Supreme Chancellor Palpatine's office complex.

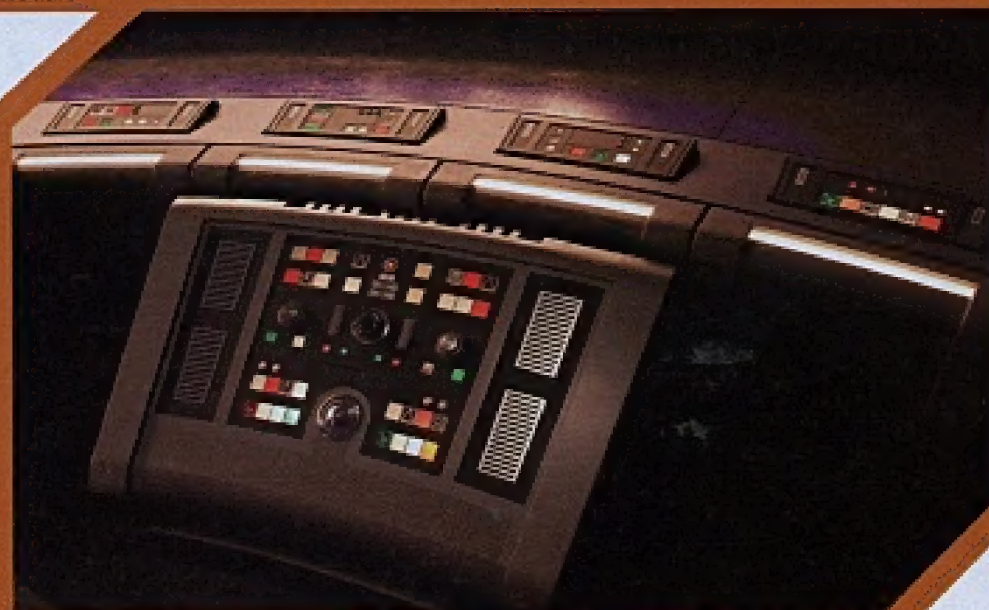


Photo by Paul Tiller

STAR N

Cool Fett Summer

» They came by the thousands and lined up for hours just to buy this summer's hottest *Star Wars* collectible: the Fan Club-exclusive silver-painted Boba Fett action figure. At Comic-Con in San Diego and Gen Con in Indianapolis, fans came to the Palzo booth seeking their Mandalorian bounty. Even after they had bagged their prey, there was plenty more the *Star Wars* fans could do at both conventions.

Comic-Con International

This was a year for the *Star Wars* fan to shine at Comic-Con. The space epic was so prevalent at the show that, at one of the *Lord of the Rings* panels, Sean Astin even welcomed the crowd to "the *Star Wars* convention." Everywhere you looked, from the giant banner over the *Star Wars* booths in the Exhibit Hall to the numerous costumed fans, it was obvious that the Force was on everyone's mind.

Jeremy Bulloch (Boba Fett) was at the Palzo Publishing/*Star Wars* Fan Club booth to sign photos and the exclusive figure. LucasArts showed off its latest games, *Star Wars Galaxies* and *Knights of the Old Republic*, while the Lucasfilm marketing department demonstrated *starwars.com*'s new Hyperspace subscription site. Cartoon Network series creator Genndy Tartakovsky and art director Paul Rudish spent some time at the booth signing an exclusive Clone Wars Cartoon poster for Hyperspace members. Code 3 unveiled the



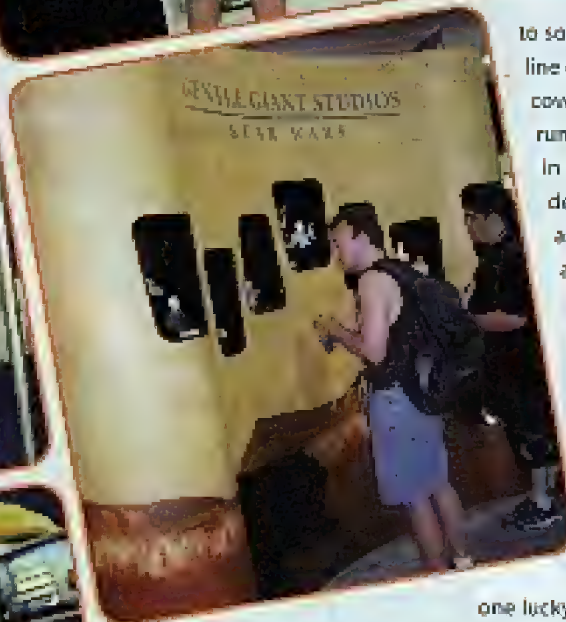
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From the World of Lucasfilm

EW'S 71

by Lisa Stevens



Click to go up to the next slide
Showing off the latest in Star Wars at Comic-Con International is Ben Davis, publisher of Star Wars Insider, and his team. The booth is a great place to see the latest in Star Wars merchandise, including the new Star Wars Insider magazine.

amazingly detailed die-cast Millennium Falcon and announced a companion X-wing piece at the show. Fossil Watches revealed two new Star Wars offerings, including a stormtrooper watch. MBNA handed out great Darth Vader and Yoda credit card T-shirts to anybody who applied for a credit card at the show. Anthony

Grandia's booth allowed fans to sort through the company's entire line of Star Wars checks and checkbook covers. The Master Replicas booth was run by the folks at theforce.net, and, in addition to having some great deals on prop replicas, they also had an assortment of celebrities signing at their booth, such as Amy Allen (Aayla Secura), Daniel Logan (Boba Fett), and Kenny Baker (R2-D2). Gentle Giant's booth was a popular place to visit, as the company sold its blue clone trooper limited edition bust, selling out very quickly. A few of those who bought one of the busts got their heads scanned, and

one lucky fan will eventually be immortalized as a clone trooper bust. Dorling Kindersley showed off its Episode II books and had artists Hans Jenssen and Richard Chasemore signing copies. Rubies unveiled some new life-sized items, including a Jawa and Darth Vader's helmet. Del Rey had a number of Star Wars authors signing copies of their novels, including Michael Stover, Greg Keyes, and Troy Denning. At the Dark Horse booth, fans could meet the talent

behind its line of Star Wars comics and pick up posters of Darth Vader and Aayla Secura.

Thursday night saw the second annual Star Wars Fan Film Awards (for much more coverage of this fabulous event, see next issue), sponsored by Lucasfilm and Atom Films. Friday was Star Wars Day at the convention, and the faithful fan could sit in on Star Wars panels from the beginning of the day until early evening. Events included LucasArts/Star Wars online, Hasbro, Dark Horse, New Jedi Order, and a mega-panel that included some video coverage of the filming of Episode III and presentations by most of the major licensees. The Star Wars Fan Club unveiled its next exclusive action figure at this panel: the Holiday Yoda figure. To cap off the day, Cartoon Network debuted a rough cut of the first episode of its Clone Wars cartoon to thunderous applause. Fans won't want to miss an episode once it starts airing in November.

Saturday morning brought the third Fan Club Breakfast of the year, with Boba Fett actors Jeremy Bulloch and Daniel Logan signing autographs while flanked by an honor guard composed of members of the 501st and San Diego Star Wars Society. Also attending were Steve Sansweet (Lucasfilm), Paul Palmer and Jeff Popper (Hasbro), and members of the Fan Club and insider staff. For more details, see this issue's *Bantha Tracks*, on the flip side of the magazine, for Fan Club members only.

Gen Con Indianapolis

The next weekend brought the Gen Con Game Fair to the site of last year's Star Wars Celebration II. Indianapolis hosted its first Gen Con convention, and Star Wars fans had a lot to do. The Paizo booth sold silver Boba Fetts again, and the C2 Ventures Star Wars celebrity autograph area was just up the aisle. Fans could get autographs from one of the largest gatherings of Star Wars actors and actresses since Celebration II. On hand were Jeremy Bulloch, Daniel Logan, Dave Prowse (Darth Vader), Ray Park (Darth Maul), Mary Oyaya (Luminara Unduli), Sharon Baksa McRandle (Mara Jade), Amy Allen, Michonne Bourriague (Aurra Sing), and Kenny Baker. Wizards of the Coast demoed its newest expansion for the Star Wars Trading Card Game as well as the latest books for the Star Wars roleplaying game. Mike Bickford of Ohio won the Star Wars TCG Championships out of a field of 98 invited players. Fans of the TCG



Jeremy Bulloch, Amy Allen, Jeremy Bulloch and Daniel Logan meet with members of the San Diego 501st and the group with the Force, including a friend from Star Wars, for a picture taken at Gen Con. Star Wars Fan Club breakfast guests enjoy work in the morning in San Diego.

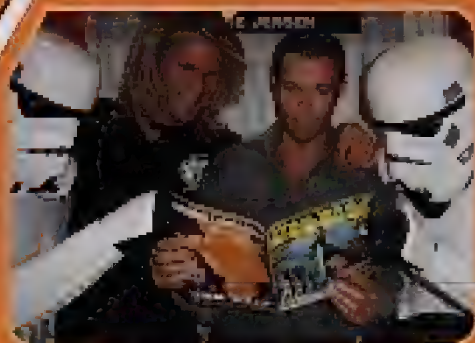


could pick up free, special oversized pictures signed by Daniel Logan, Sharon McRandle, Amy Allen, and Michonne Bourriague at the Wizards booth.

On Friday morning, Paizo had its fourth Fan Club breakfast of the year with help from the Indy Knights and the local 501st garrison. Once again, Jeremy Bulloch and Daniel

Logan were on hand to meet with the fans. Daniel even fielded some questions from the attendees.





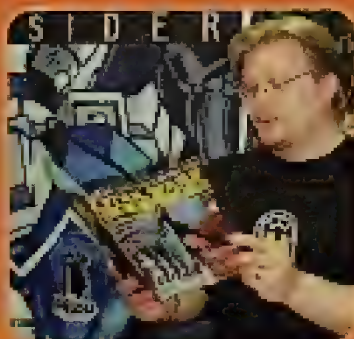
Zachariah Jensen (Kit Fisto) and Jesse Jensen (Saesee Tiin) can't seem to keep the troops away from their copy of *Insider*.

Look who's reading *Star Wars Insider*!

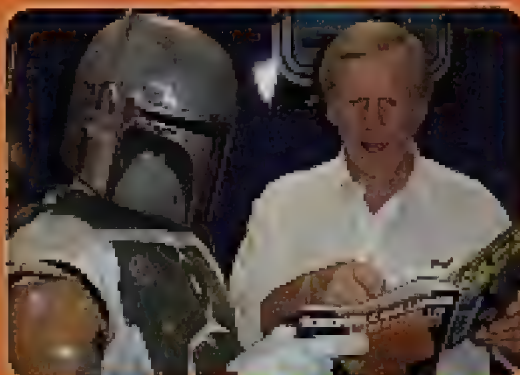
Insider and *Bantha Tracks* were everywhere this summer, from San Diego to Indianapolis:



That's really cool! Gwendy Tordella (Gwen Tardella) and Rudyh of the Cartoon Network's (Rudyh) series check out *Insider* at Comic-Con.



Paul Felt (Paul Felt)



Boba Fett (Boba Fett) and Boba Fett (Boba Fett)



Gwendy Tordella (Gwen Tardella)



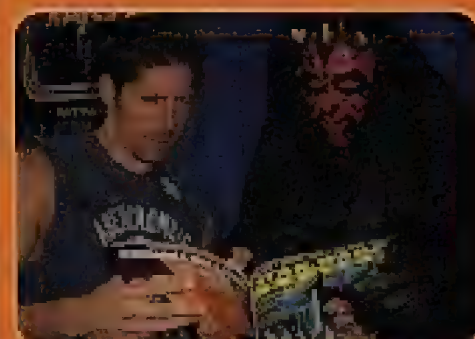
Amy Allen (Amy Allen)



Women Who Kick Ass (Women Who Kick Ass) including Mia y Olaya (Lorraine Onyiah), Sherron Blake McRandle (Mara Jade), Michèle (Lorraine Onyiah) and Amy Allen (Amy Allen)



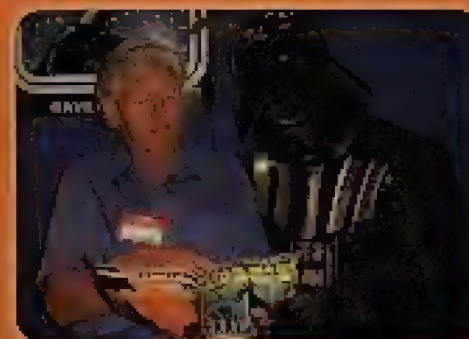
Daniel Lozano (Boba Fett)



Always two there are... Ray Park and Darth Maul.



Daniel Lozano (Boba Fett, *Attack of the Clones*)



Two most impressive dark lords of the Sith check out *Insider* at Gen Con. David Amara and Darth Vader.

STAR SIG

TEMUERA MORRISON

(Jango Fett) wants his MTV. The New Zealander recently completed his first-ever music video appearance for Kiwi-born musician Brook Fraser. The video is for the single, "Better," Fraser's debut song. Veteran video producer Bret Nichols says he chose Morrison because he wanted an actor who could portray a "life gone to ruin." According to Nichols, "It's about a man who has lost his wife and kids through an accident. We wanted to use Temuera because of his acting experience." Morrison recently completed the film *The Adventures of Mike S. Blueberry*, in which he portrays a Native American. The Western movie was given a big push at the Cannes Film Festival in May.



out, it doesn't help that it's awful outside. There's a pretty high rate of depression, isolation, and craziness." Portman also believes that directors will start taking her a little more seriously now that she's gotten her diploma.

"Directors are much more interested in collaborating now, as opposed to me being a chess piece in their game. Suddenly, they're my colleagues. It's very different."

In the unsubstantiated department, **dark-horizons.com** recently posted an interesting Natalie Portman rumor: Ms. Portman might star alongside Arnold Schwarzenegger in *King Conan*—assuming the pumped one has not become Governor of California before shooting begins.



As Dr. Seuss says, "Oh, the places you'll go!" Congratulations go out to **NATALIE PORTMAN** (Senator

Padmé Amidala), who recently graduated from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Portman, who studied psychology, said recently that although she'll miss the school itself, she'll be happy to get away from the loathsome weather that accompanies it. "Cambridge is the coolest city in America, but I'll be relieved to go because of the stress and the tough winters," she said. "When you're stressed



EWAN MCGREGOR (Obi-Wan Kenobi) is here to stay. The film *Stay*, which started filming in September, stars McGregor as a psychologist at an Ivy League university who tries to prevent one of his students from committing suicide. His co-star and romantic interest in the film will be none other than Naomi Watts of *Mulholland Drive* and *The Ring*. The film, written by

David Benioff, is said to be a supernatural thriller.

BRIAN BLESSED

(Boss Nass) is starring in a film about a haunted house. *Devil's Harvest* is the name of this



creepy little picture, and Blessed plays a character named Father Gabriel Norton. The story revolves around a young artist who returns to his childhood town to visit a friend. As he's staying in the house she recently acquired, strange things begin to occur—old, wretched dreams come back to haunt him, and he's reminded of a terrible secret about the house. Could it be that a demon is lurking nearby ready to snatch up those who trespass? Wesa lika dis one already.



Other Siths have been spotted around town lately. It would appear that **IAN MCDIARMID**

(Chancellor Palpatine) recently finished some television work for the BBC in the miniseries *Charles II*. The series focused on King Charles' court, family, and mistresses. Written by Adrian Hodges, who wrote *David Copperfield* and *The Last Word*, the series delves into the psychological

HTINGS 71

by Benjamin Harper

expanse of the monarch, who was deeply traumatized by the execution of his father. McDiarmid portrays Sir Edward Hyde.



DAVID PROWSE (Darth Vader) recently attended the Hyde Park Heartbeat Hike in London to

support one of his favorite causes—Phab, a charity dedicated to helping people with handicaps—by signing autographs and presenting the prize for best costume in the fancy dress parade portion of the event.



HARRISON FORD (Han Solo), fresh from success with *Hollywood Homicide*, was presented a

Young Hollywood Award on AMC TV in early June. Ford received the award for being Young Hollywood's Role Model. Dennis Haysbert, who plays President David Palmer on TV's 24, presented the award.

Nute Gunray once said, "Now there are two of them!" and right he was. Harrison Ford was recently given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, but there already was a star for Harrison Ford. No, he didn't get one each for Han Solo and

Indiana Jones. The other star was for a silent film actor who shares Harrison Ford's name. The original passed away in 1957, but we hope the current incarnation will be around for a long time. His star was dedicated in front of the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, California, and with him were Calista Flockhart, his mother, and Steven Spielberg, who introduced Ford to the crowd before offering a few remarks about Ford's work.

JOHN WILLIAMS (Genius Composer) ain't no muggle. The creator of many



magical film scores, including those of the entire *Star Wars* saga, has recently agreed to write the score for the third installment in the Harry Potter film series, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. According to the Boston Globe, the upcoming couple of years will be a busy time for Williams—not only will he dip back into the Potter pool, he'll also be composing scores for Steven Spielberg's remake of *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* and the as-yet-untitled films *Indiana Jones 4* and *Star Wars: Episode III*.



LIAM NEESON (Qui-Gon Jinn) dropped out of it, but another *Star Wars* alum joined in:

RALPH BROWN (Ric Olie) stars in *The Exorcist IV: The Beginning*, a prequel to the pea-soup-laden



horror classic that has sent chills down the spines of generations. That rascally demon Pazuzu, in typical fashion, takes over the body of an unsuspecting youngster, and a young Father Merrin must come to the rescue. Pazuzu isn't just content with spewing dirty words and spinning heads this time, no sir, it's total world domination he's after, and only one man can save the world. The film releases in 2004.

And finally, a bit of good news for you TC-14 fans out there. No, we can't confirm the rumor that the silver sycophant



wasn't on board the Droid Control Ship when that whipper-snapper Anakin Skywalker blew it up, but we can say that the woman who supplied the voice, **LINDSAY DUNCAN**, is in an upcoming motion picture entitled *Under the Tuscan Sun*. The story revolves around a San Francisco writer who suffers from writer's block when her life takes an unexpected turn.

JUMP TO HYPERSPACE STAR WARS.com

By Pablo Hidalgo, Internet Content Provider
Edited by Paul Ens, Director of Lucas Online

Leap Into Hyperspace

At the half-way point through principal photography for Episode III, starwars.com Hyperspace members continue to enjoy the day-to-day and minute-to-minute experience of being on the set. The Episode III webcam, daily set diaries, and live online talks with celebrities like Rick McCallum and Anthony Daniels keep members close to the action.

While the full Hyperspace experience requires a computer, starwars.com is pleased to share with *Star Wars Insider* readers some of the recent excitement. For more information, or to subscribe to Hyperspace for only \$19.95 per year (available to all countries) visit <http://www.starwars.com/hyperspace>.

Webcam

From headless Wookiees to Shaak Ti at tea, the Hyperspace webcam captures it all. The webcam, set at Fox Studios in Australia, lets fans glimpse Episode III filming progress, including dramatic sets, favorite characters, and snapshots of cast fun.



Hyperspace Online chat with Anthony Daniels



Actor Anthony Daniels returned for a second online chat with Hyperspace members on August 7 after an overwhelming response to his first chat on July 30.

DarthJedi: Any chance of your involvement in the upcoming "Clone Wars" cartoon? C-3PO isn't C-3PO without you behind the mask!

Anthony Daniels: Five minutes before starting this delightfully stimulating webchat, I was watching the rough of the first episode of *Clone Wars*. For a cartoon, it's great! And yes, I have already recorded episodes before I came to Australia. I had fun doing it. I think it could be a fun series.

LordIronLung: Do you get to have any scenes with the great Ian McDiarmid?

Anthony Daniels: Yes, but I'm trusting you not to tell anyone.

Harperwil: The webcam has shown you watching the shooting of some scenes you're not a part of. Can you tell us if you've watched any of the major lightsaber battles being filmed?

Anthony Daniels: Yes I have, and I marvel at Nick

Gillard's choreography and creativity, and I am in awe of the skills shown by the actors involved... whoever they might be. It is always extraordinary to see an actor displaying such expertise as I have seen. Everyone on the set was entranced. Almost every take was perfect and safe. The drama was real. Even without the dramatic score that John Williams will ultimately lay under it, the fight was thrilling and frightening.

GhettoFabulous: Have any improvements been made to the C-3PO suit since you were last in it for Episode II so that it's more comfortable?

Anthony Daniels: After all these years, I've finally worked out that if the holes in the neck were moved forward about 10 mm on each side, I wouldn't feel like I was in the grip of a demented Vader every time I shoot a scene. Don Bies made a whole series of new necks in lighter, thinner material using a laser cutter at ILM. Why didn't he ever do this before?

From a "previous chat": Thinking about doing another Holiday Special?

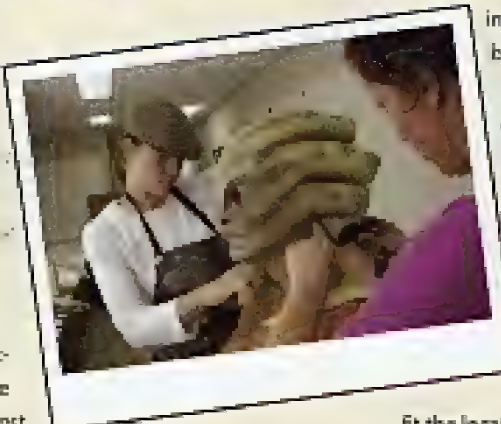
Anthony Daniels: You could be terminated for even suggesting such a thing. Mind you, I had fun working on the original, but as a safety measure I didn't actually watch it.

Set Diary - Excerpts from Pablo Hidalgo's journal on the Episode III set

New Kit On The Block

July 09, 2003

Kit Fisto is a perfect example of the power of a winning smile. Though his tentacle-bressed alien features help him stand out from the rest of the Jedi in Episode II, it was Kit Fisto's surprise grin in the heat of battle that made him unforgettable to many fans. The new Kit Fisto, Ben Cooke, was testing out the green grin today, as he underwent his first Jedi makeup test. Cooke has worked with prosthetic makeup before, performing stunts in makeup in scores of "Hercules" and "Xena: Warrior Princess" episodes. Most recently, he's done stunt-work for *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*. He's particularly psyched about playing a Jedi, just one of several roles he'll perform in Episode III. "I'm also Anakin's double, a bodyguard, and a few droids as well," he explains. For several of these roles, he won't be seen in the finished picture, but his performance will be the basis of a computer-generated character and serves as vital interaction for his flesh-and-blood opponents. As Fisto, though, it'll be Ben on screen, hidden under the mask.



Supreme Performance

July 11, 2003

Today was the first day of shooting for Ian McDiarmid. In many ways the *Star Wars* saga is about his character; after all, Palpatine's actions instigate so much of what occurs in both the prequel and original trilogy. Having grown up watching his dripping-with-darkness performance as

the Emperor in *Return of the Jedi*, I can't help but associate even the actor's most benign characters with sinister motives.

As a result, his friendly smiling demeanor is very much welcome when he says a cheery "hello" to me as I'm snooping around the window of the Supreme Chancellor's office set.

His presence and performance are undeniably strong, and his

voice acquires an unmistakable pilliness when he must deliver lines of great weight. Much of Palpatine's well-crafted agenda will come to light in this film, meaning the actor has a significant number of scenes in this final episode. Today marked the shooting of one of them.

I get to the stage for the afternoon's round of shooting. It's the stage with the extended office, the original trilogy set, and a new interior environment for Episode III. When I first explored this area, weeks ago, the sets were easily identifiable. Now, though, they are draped with curtains, encased in scaffolding and rigged with lights, making it impossible to discern their shape from the outside.

Shoot Day 10 is a single scene, about two-and-a-quarter pages worth of script in length. From a visual standpoint, it echoes very much the fram-

ing and blocking of a pivotal exchange in *Attack of the Clones*, but the assignment discussed this time is far different.

A Busy Day for Bail

July 28, 2003

George Lucas wasn't kidding when he said that Bail Organa was a developing character. Three scenes are on the call sheet for today, and the Senator from Alderaan is in all of them. It's not unusual for a shooting schedule to concentrate on one actor for a stretch like this. It ends up making the most of Jimmy Smits' brief time here in Sydney.

For the trio of scenes, Smits has three costume changes to fit the locations and actions required. Unlike the more ornate robes and turtleneck tunic he wore in Episode II, the outfit he wears in Episode III seems more functional. It still has an elegance and presence that befits a man of his political standing, but the lines and textures are cleaner. To my eye, the costumes subtly bridge the styles of the prequel and original trilogies.

The first scene today is all dialogue—an important discussion between Bail and other major characters. We're back in a full set, with walls, floor, ceiling and nary a hint of blue to be seen. It's a nice break from the blue and green-filled shooting of the previous week. The set is a conference room—one with a design that definitely harkens back to the original trilogy, right down to the array of confoundingly unlabeled blinking lights and buttons that you find all over the classic films.

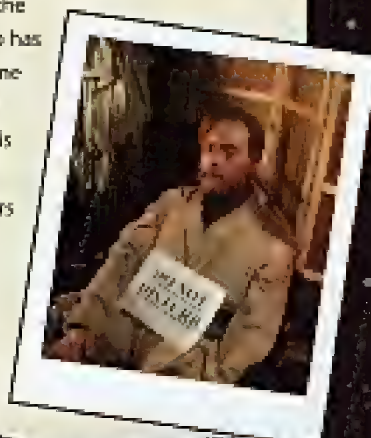


Seeing Doubles

July 31, 2003

Speaking of doubles, there were no shortages of Obi-Wans on set today. While Ewan McGregor had finished much of his scenes earlier in the day, Nash Edgerton was on hand for some stunt work. He sports a fake beard and the new older Jedi hairstyle to closely match Ewan's appearance. There's another double on hand, though, who is all the more creepier for his dead-on likeness. He sits on a director's chair with a "Do Not Disturb" sign stuck on him.

"He" isn't really a he, and more of an "it." He's the dummy doppelganger that the Creature Shop has crafted for Kenobi. A particular effect for a scene shot today requires a non-living stand-in, and digital isn't a practical route. This Fauxbi-Wan is very lifelike, with punched hair and beard and exacting paint job. His weighted jointed fingers feel like there's bone in his foam latex hands, and his body is very articulated. Given a few inappropriate whispers overheard on set, I'd hate to see a life-size realistic Ewan McGregor doll fall into the wrong hands.



Star Wars Insider's

Holiday

**Here's
where the
fun begins.**

It's almost that time of year, and the Insider staff has been making a list and checking it twice. We've selected 75 Star Wars products available this holiday season that will make a good gift idea for someone who loves you. And one last buying tip – if you get a translator, make sure it speaks Bocce.

Fernandes added two new electric guitars to their product line this year. The Yoda Retrorocket and the Boba Fett Retrorocket each come with a hardshell case with an embossed Star Wars logo. Low production numbers—75 units for Fett, 65 for Yoda—make these the most limited collectible Star Wars gifts in our gift guide this year. You'll also want to check out the second assortment of guitar picks, which feature Attack of the Clones images. See www.fernandesguitars.com for more information.



Yoda Retrorocket Guitar \$1299.98



Boba Fett Retrorocket Guitar \$1299.98



Star Wars Guitar Pick \$4 per pack of 2



Fossil's new Star Wars logo watch comes in a box featuring Drew Struzan's poster art for all five movies. The Stormtrooper watch ships in a case shaped like a stormtrooper helmet. Each is limited to 3,000 pieces. You can buy them both at www.fossil.com.



Star Wars Logo Watch \$110



Stormtrooper Watch \$125

Annual

Gift Guide

by Vic Wertz

Key to the ratings:

The icon next to each product name tells you how good you should plan to be if you want to find the item in your gift bag this year. Factors in the rating include pricing, availability, and the likelihood that the purchaser will be tempted to keep the gift for herself.



Emulate the best qualities of a Jedi Master if you want this gift.



You should be so good you're bad.



Occasionally you tell the truth from "a certain point of view."



The booty can likely be yours, so long as you don't whine too much.



There's still some good in you.



Hallmark is back for its eighth consecutive year with new holiday ornaments.

This time around, selections include a TIE fighter with sound effects, a miniature pair of clone troopers, Yoda, Padmé, and C-3PO. As usual, the best place to find them is at Hallmark stores.



TIE Fighter \$24



Yoda \$15



C-3PO \$15



Padmé Amidala \$15



Clone Troopers \$10



Classico San Francisco, the company best known for their *Star Wars* postcards and magnets, introduced a line of 13 *Star Wars* mugs earlier this year. They're not in wide distribution, but you can visit www.classicosanfrancisco.com to learn more.



Classico San Francisco
Mugs \$12 each



Code 3 Collectibles, the company responsible for the cool die-cast Skywalker Ranch fire truck in last year's guide, gets into the *Star Wars* business with a pair of awesome die-cast vehicles, the Millennium Falcon (now shipping) and Luke Skywalker's X-wing Starfighter (coming soon). Tremendous attention to detail has been paid, and the end result is most impressive. www.code3.net is the place to go for these stunning items.



Die-Cast Millennium Falcon \$295



Die-Cast Luke Skywalker's X-wing Starfighter pricing to be determined



Rubie's Costume Company is about to introduce two new lines of high-end, limited-edition replicas—helmets and busts. The first three helmets will be Darth Vader, Jango Fett, and a white Clone Trooper. All three are wearable, foam-lined helmets and include a display base and a numbered plaque. The bust line will be launched with Yoda, produced in vinyl with rooted hair, and accompanied by a display base and plaque. All four items should be available at the end of the year. Visit www.rubies.com for updates on availability and pricing.



Darth Vader Replica Helmet pricing to be determined



Jango Fett Replica Helmet pricing to be determined



Clone Trooper Replica Helmet pricing to be determined



Yoda Replica Bust pricing to be determined



Gentle Giant's popular mini-bust series will grow by two items before year's end: Grand Moff Tarkin, scanned from a life mask of Peter Cushing, is due in November, and Greedo will be available in December. Dark Horse distributes the Gentle Giant busts to comic stores, but you should be able to purchase them directly from www.gentlegianttd.com by the time you read this.



Grand Moff Tarkin mini-bust \$45



Greedo mini-bust \$45



Previously available only from Kotobukya in Japan, these nifty, pre-painted, snap-fit vinyl model kits are well worth searching out. Fortunately, Dark Horse has brought them to the U.S. and is now offering them through the same retail channels that carry their other collectibles. Don't be intimidated by the "model kit" billing—if you can assemble one of Hasbro's Unleashed figures, you can put together one of these.



Darth Vader Vinyl Model Kit **\$89**



Jango Fett Vinyl Model Kit **\$99**



Clone Trooper Vinyl Model Kit **\$99**



Asajj Ventress Vinyl Model Kit **\$99**



Obi-Wan Kenobi Vinyl Model Kit **\$89**



Mace Windu and Yoda Vinyl Model Kit **\$89**



Master Replicas, best known for their high-end, archive-accurate prop replicas, is introducing two new items in their Force FX lightsaber line: Luke's *Return of the Jedi* lightsaber and Vader's *A New Hope* lightsaber both feature light and sound effects. Place your orders at www.masterreplicas.com.



Darth Vader Force FX Lightsaber **\$139**



Luke Skywalker Force FX Lightsaber **\$139**



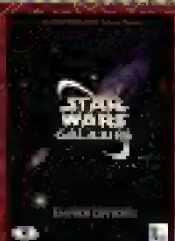
November's *The Empire Strikes Back* expansion to Wizards of the Coast's *Star Wars Trading Card Game* enhances game play with a new card type, two new card mechanics, and, best of all, AT-ATs. **Minis: AT-ATs**



Star Wars TCG: The Empire Strikes Back Expansion **\$9.99**



Star Wars TCG: The Empire Strikes Back Expansion Pack **\$9.99**



Nintendo GameCube owners will want to get their hands on *Rogue Squadron III: Rebel Strike* as soon as it's released this fall. It's full of classic trilogy action at its finest and not to be missed.

PC gamers who aren't already addicted to *Star Wars Galaxies* will appreciate it as a gift—just don't expect to see much of them in the next few months. Gamers who already have *Galaxies* might like to take a breather from the massively multiplayer online action when *Knights of the Old Republic* is released for the PC. *KOTOR* is widely praised as one of the best roleplaying games of the year.

Xbox fans who have been playing *KOTOR* for months, though, will want to have a look at *Jedi Knight: Jedi Academy*, also available for the PC this fall. *Jedi Academy* takes the *Dark Forces/Jedi Knight* series to new levels, as players learn force skills—including lightsaber combat—from Jedi Master Luke Skywalker.



Rogue Squadron III: Rebel Strike (GameCube) **\$49.95**



Star Wars Galaxies (PC) **\$49.95**



Knights of the Old Republic (XBOX, PC) **\$49.95**



Jedi Knight: Jedi Academy (XBOX, PC) **\$49.95**



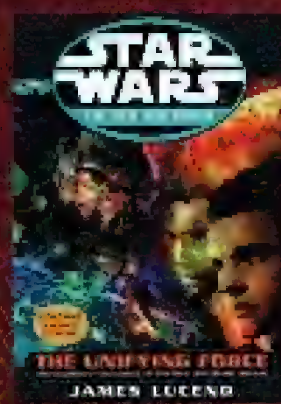
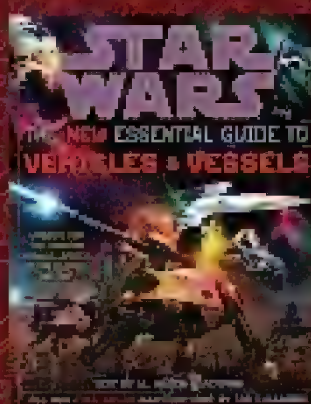
In September, Dark Horse Comics released their second Clone Wars trade paperback, *Victories and Sacrifices*. It includes stories by Haden Blackman and John Ostrander, and art by Jan Duursema. At the end of October, Dark Horse brings a twist to their series of Jedi one-shots with a double-sized issue about the former Jedi Count Dooku. This Clone Wars story was written by John Ostrander and illustrated by Jan Duursema.



Clone Wars: Victories and Sacrifices **\$14.95**



Jedi Quest #7 **\$4.99**



Fans of the New Jedi Order are already looking forward to James Luceno's *The Unifying Force*, which wraps up the 19-book storyline. This hardcover includes a CD-ROM with useful NJO reference material, as well as the complete first NJO book, *Vector Prime*, in eBook form. For those who haven't started reading the New Jedi Order yet, November is a good time to begin, as Del Rey releases a boxed set of the first three NJO novels. R.A. Salvatore's *Vector Prime*, and Michael A. Stackpole's *Dark Tide I: Onslaught* and *Dark Tide II: Ruin* novels launch the Yuuzhan Vong invasion.



New Jedi Order: The Unifying Force **\$28.95**

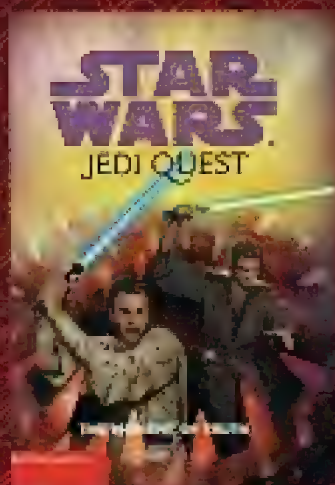


New Jedi Order Book Set **\$20.97**

In November, Del Rey presents the *New Essential Guide to Vehicles and Vessels*, featuring over 150 different vehicle designs from the films and expanded universe. The text is by Haden Blackman, and the illustrations are by Ian Fullwood. It's a handy reference to most of the ships in the galaxy.



The New Essential Guide to Vehicles and Vessels **\$24.95**



Scholastic Books offers new entries into each of their current series for young readers. Elizabeth Hand authors Boba Fett's first meeting with Jabba the Hutt in *Boba Fett #4: Hunted*, due in October. In November, Anakin and Obi-Wan find their way out of a nest of gundarks in Jude Watson's *Jedi Quest #7: The Moment of Truth*.



Boba Fett #4: Hunted **\$4.99**



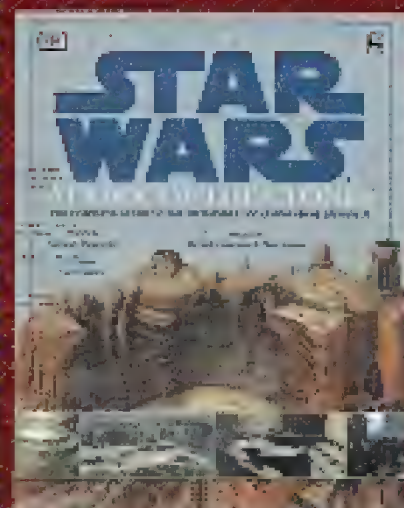
Jedi Quest #7: The Moment of Truth **\$4.99**



It's the other classic trilogy on your list of most-wanted DVDs—the adventures of Indiana Jones. If you don't already know why you should want it, you must not have read pages 50–55 of this issue. It will be available in November everywhere DVDs are sold.



The Unifying Force **\$28.95**



Looking for something for the ultimate *Star Wars* fan? How about a gift they'll thank you for an entire year? For \$27.95, you can go to starwars.paizo.com, join the Official *Star Wars* Fan Club, and get eight issues of *Star Wars Insider*, four issues of *Bantha Tracks*, a special membership kit, and other member benefits. Or, for \$19.95, you can go to starwars.com and sign up for Lucasfilm's premium Hyperspace service, which brings you daily updates from the set of Episode III, behind-the-scenes information you won't find anywhere else, and much, much more. Better still, you can go to www.starwars.com and sign up for the Hyperspace/*Star Wars Insider* bundle, and get both for only \$39.95.

DK Publishing examined the locations of Episode II in *Inside the Worlds of Attack of the Clones*, released earlier this year. Author Simon Beecroft and illustrators Hans Jensen and Richard Chasemore drew from blueprints, models, and photos of the sets to ensure a high degree of detail and accuracy in their exploration.



Join the Official *Star Wars* Fan Club, get eight issues of *Star Wars Insider*, four issues of *Bantha Tracks*, a special membership kit, and other member benefits. **\$28.95 by mail or phone; \$27.95 at starwars.paizo.com.**



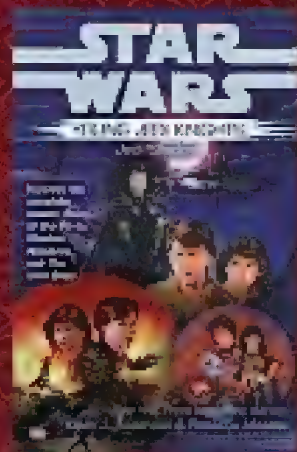
Sign up for Lucasfilm's premium Hyperspace service. **\$19.95 at starwars.com**



Hyperspace/*Insider* combo: **\$39.95 at starwars.com**



Inside the Worlds of Attack of the Clones. **\$24.95**



Berkley Books helps readers take their first steps into a larger world with two omnibus editions, each collecting three books of Kevin Anderson and Rebecca Moesta's *Young Jedi Knights* series from the mid-1990s. The first, *Jedi Shadow*, ships in September, while the second, *Jedi Sunrise*, is due in December.



Unfortunately, before we get to Episode III in 2005, we need to get all the way through 2004 first. Cedco's calendars can help you count those days in style. To sweeten the deal, they're offering a special discount to *Star Wars Insider* readers. If you visit www.cedco.com, you'll see a link to enter a VIP code in the upper right corner. Type in the code "5006" to get any or all of Cedco's *Star Wars* calendars for the discounted price of \$8.50.



Young Jedi Knights - Jedi Shadow. **\$7.99**



Young Jedi Knights - Jedi Sunrise. **\$7.99**



Aliens and Creatures 2003-2004 Student Planner. ~~\$10.00~~ **\$8.50**



The Official Star Wars Episode II 2004 Calendar. ~~\$10.00~~ **\$8.50**



Star Wars Online: Adventure 2004 Calendar. ~~\$10.00~~ **\$8.50**



Characters, Creatures, and Things! 2004 Daily Calendar. ~~\$10.00~~ **\$8.50**



Make the holiday season more fun with one of the best gifts for anyone, at any time—one of Hasbro's Electronic Lightsabers. Owning one of these toys is the closest most people get to being a Jedi or Sith, and if you're over 18, the second you turn it on, you'll feel like a kid again. And they're available in many styles—Yoda, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Mace Windu, Count Dooku, Anakin Skywalker, Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, and more.



Hasbro Electronic Lightsabers
Assortment **\$20**



For many Star Wars fans, it just wouldn't be the holidays without the gift of action figures, and Hasbro's Clone Wars toy line includes some of the best. Ten basic figures, three three-figure multi-packs (droids, clone troopers, and Jedi), a Destroyer Droid Launcher, two figures with speeder bikes, a spider droid, and six vehicles make for a ton of action. And the vehicles include a special mini-book with new Clone Wars fiction from *Star Wars Insider*, Scholastic Books, and Del Rey.



Hasbro Clone Wars Basic Figures **\$5**



Hasbro Clone Wars Multi-Pack **\$10**



Hasbro Clone Wars Destroyer Droid Launcher **\$10**



Hasbro Clone Wars Figure with Speeder Bike **\$10**



Hasbro Clone Wars Spider Droid **\$10**



Hasbro Clone Wars Vehicle Assortment **\$20**



Hasbro Clone Wars Republic Gunship **\$20**

While you're scooping out the clone trooper multi-packs, keep an eye out for five intentional variations in the regiments:

1. White trooper standing, white trooper kneeling, white trooper lying down.

2. White trooper standing, white trooper kneeling, yellow trooper with binoculars.

3. Blue trooper standing, white trooper kneeling, white trooper lying down.

4. White trooper standing, green trooper kneeling, white trooper with binoculars.

5. White trooper standing, white trooper kneeling, red trooper lying down.



Escape from the winter weather by recreating inside and building your own All Terrain Armored Transport. LEGO's AT-AT climbs to the top of the cool list because, well, it's LEGO, it's an AT-AT, and it comes with the cutest little snowtroopers in the galaxy. Then add to your collection of LEGO vehicles with the Hallie Droid from *Attack of the Clones*. And don't miss the second assortment of LEGO mini-vehicles, which includes the Millennium Falcon, an AT-AT, a Republic Gunship, and an MTT. When you complete the set, you can use the leftover pieces to build a mini-Y-wing.



LEGO AT-AT **\$99.95**



LEGO Hallie Droid **\$49.95**



LEGO Millennium Falcon MML model **\$6.95**



LEGO AT-AT MML model **\$6.95**



LEGO Republic Gunship MML model **\$6.95**



LEGO MTT MML model **\$6.95**



Medicom's Star Wars Kubrick figures from Japan are tough to find in the U.S., but they're so cool that we had to include them in the gift guide. The attention to detail shows us that these toys were created by true fans who clearly respect the history of Star Wars and collecting. One of the first Kubrick products was an "Early Bird Kit" that pays tribute to one of Kenner's earliest products from the vintage era. The easiest figures to find in the US right now are the bounty hunters pictured here; the follow-up wave includes two Sandtroopers, Obi-Wan, Greedo, Han Solo, a Tusken Raider, and a Cantina Band Member. Unless you frequent a great toyshop that deals with lots of imported items, eBay is one of your best bets for this product line.



Medicom Star Wars Kubrick Figures
\$5-10 each



We think the most appropriate *Star Wars* gift you could give for the holidays, though, is Hasbro's new Holiday Edition Yoda action figure, which will be available exclusively through the Official *Star Wars* Fan Club. Check out page 87 for the details, and then visit starwars.paizo.com to place your order.



One of Hasbro's best ideas this year is their new assortment of Scene Packs. Each set consists of three action figures as well as a diorama that connects to another Scene Pack to give you the whole picture. Look for both parts of the Geonosian War Chamber, and two sections of the Jedi High Council.



Hasbro Holiday Edition: \$18



Hasbro Scene Packs Assortment: \$17



Though all the other product lines are compelling, don't forget that the core of *Star Wars* toy collecting is and probably will always be the 3-3/4" action figure. Including the Clone Wars figures, Hasbro's main product line for 2003 will top 50 figures by year's end. Keep your eyes peeled in the very near future for Vader, Luke, The Emperor, Lt. Danni Faytonni, and WA-7, the robot waitress from Dex's Diner. In November, look for the fourth Fans' Choice figure – the Ralph McQuarrie Stormtrooper – as well as Bail Organa, Padme, the first of two Imperial dignitaries, and three new figures from the Outlander Club – Obi-Wan, Elan Sleazebaggano, and Ayy Yida.



Hasbro 12" Figure Assortment: \$95

Be on the lookout for the latest assortment of Hasbro's 12"-scale Figures, highlighting *Return of the Jedi*: Luke Skywalker, Yoda, a Biker Scout, and an Ewok two-pack.



Hasbro 12" Figures: \$20

Hasbro's Unleashed line seems to gain new fans with every wave. The last assortment for this year is sure to continue the trend, as it includes some of the most highly anticipated figures in the line in a new package design: Han Solo, Yoda, and Boba Fett.



Hasbro Unleashed Figures: \$15



Thinking about spending the holidays someplace warm? Disney gives you one more reason with a new series of Indiana Jones action figures. You'll find them in Walt Disney World's Disney-MGM Studios in Florida, and in Disneyland in California. Figures include a new Indy, Marion Ravenwood, a German Mechanic, a German Soldier, and a Cairo Swordsman.



Disney Indiana Jones Action Figures: \$8

A VISIT TO

RANCHO OBI-WAN

AN INSIDER'S TOUR OF STEVE SANSWEET'S STAR WARS MUSEUM

By Justin Lambros



Known to fellow fans as one of the world's foremost experts on Star Wars, Steve Sansweet began his journey a long time ago and far, far away from his current job as Lucasfilm's Director of Content Management and head of Fan Relations. Along the way, he amassed a memorabilia collection so vast and comprehensive that it belongs in a museum... so that's exactly where he has put it. Join *Insider* on an exclusive tour of the collection that has made Steve Sansweet better known as the world's #1 Star Wars fan.

THE SAGA BEGINS

As a reporter for the *Wall Street Journal* in 1976, Steve Sansweet had been hearing a lot about toy collecting, so he decided to write a feature story on the topic. During his research, he tracked down many collectors for interviews. At the time, however, the prized pieces were mostly turn-of-the-century antiques.

As Sansweet was interviewing the owner of an art gallery, however, fate—or perhaps the Force—intervened. The man showed Sansweet what he believed to be “the next big thing” in collecting: a case of plastic and tin robots from the Hollywood Toy Shop. A lifelong fan of science fiction, Sansweet found the toys fascinating and after the interview went out to buy a bunch. Little did he know that this was his first step into a larger world—one that was about to become a great deal larger with the release of *Star Wars* and the dawn of a new age of collectibles. Looking back on the past quarter-century of collecting, Sansweet

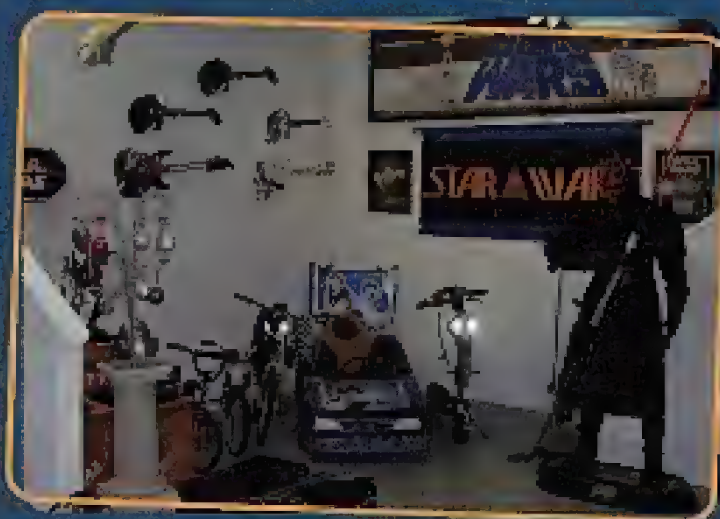
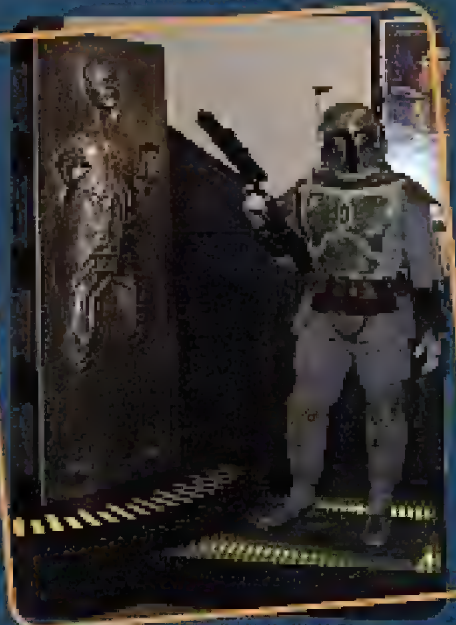
explains, “*Star Wars* truly launched the modern licensing business.”

Sansweet has been a part of that transformation of science-fiction merchandising since the start, having written numerous books about Star Wars collectibles, which many collectors cite as their inspiration for getting into the hobby. His passion for Star Wars memorabilia began while he was living in Los Angeles in a single-story house in the Los Feliz hills near Hollywood. The collection grew so quickly that the house soon had to grow to two stories, then three, before he had to add storage lockers. Before long, it was nearly impossible to walk around and see the entire collection. But the Force was still strong with him, and Sansweet found himself moving closer to the bright center of the Star Wars universe.

After a long career as a journalist, Sansweet became a Lucasfilm employee in 1996. In 1998 he moved to Northern California to be closer to his new office at Skywalker Ranch. Moving his now-enormous collection was no mean feat. It required two 48-foot tractor-trailers and another 24-foot truck to transport his “personal Star Wars collection” across the state. The moving company told him it was the second largest private move they had ever handled.

Sansweet and his collection finally arrived at a small, one-time chicken ranch, whose nearly 5,000 square-foot barn he refurbished over seven months. “My fantasy was to have a place where you could really see the collection and have some drama to it—really trick it out and have a museum,” he explains. “If I could be so bold.”

Only he could be so bold.



THE BIG ENTRANCE

The entrance to the Sansweet Collection is sure to astonish any *Star Wars* fan. John Williams' classic theme music blares from speakers as a life-sized, lightsaber-wielding Darth Vader breathes heavily through his ventilator and fog spews out around a carbonite-clad Han Solo. Nearby stands the smuggler's captor, a life-sized Don Post replica of Boba Fett.

"This is the prototype that Don brought to the Ranch to get approval,"

explains Sansweet before turning to the even more impressive figure draped in black. "The Vader is mostly original from *The Empire Strikes Back*," says Sansweet. He acquired the helmet first and then gathered the rest of the outfit from a variety of sources, including auctions. The boots and gloves are imitations.

Other jaw-dropping pieces adorn the first few steps of the museum, including models from the classic films: a speeder bike, a snowspeeder,



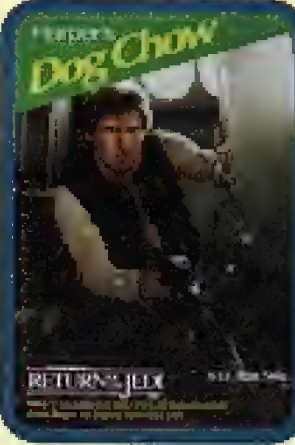
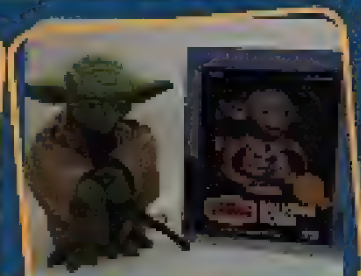
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Australian Dog Chow Sticker

People often ask Sansweet, "What's the weirdest thing Star Wars?" and Sansweet has many answers—probably too many—but "How about this Australian dog food?" is one of his most common answers. "It's Harper's Dog Chow, I think, and there are twelve different stickers to get on the inside. I'd never seen one, nobody in the U.S. had ever seen one. One finally came up on eBay, and I got it!" Sansweet says. "Somebody somewhere in Australia must have a set of these things, but most people don't know what the heck I'm talking about."

and much more. Sansweet notes that all of the models and props were acquired from private collections before he joined Lucasfilm.

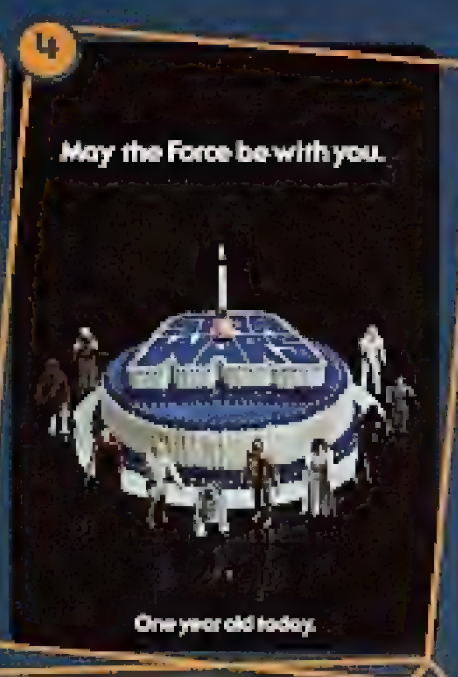
The models are only the start of a wide variety of movie artifacts, including pieces of the krayt dragon skeleton and Mos Eisley Cantina creature masks made from the original molds. In one display case rest a set of C-3PO's head and hands.

Other original movie pieces include the helmet of a biker scout and a Han Solo stunt pistol, which is as close to Harrison Ford as most people are going to get. "The 'hero' pistol used for close-up shots is a tricked-out German mauser. It weighed about five or six pounds," says Sansweet, wielding his lightweight blaster like a true scoundrel. "This one feels good in a holster because it doesn't weigh anything."

The collection also boasts a mock-up head of the four-foot-tall model of the AT-AT and a starship from the film of the Disney *Star Tours* ride. Sansweet's collection consists of whatever he could lay hands on, and each one comes with its own story. Since there are so many items, however, sometimes he can't remember exactly which path led to a particular object. For example, he shrugs, "I don't know how I have 4-LOM's crotch."

TOY STORY

Collecting the original *Star Wars* action figures was no big deal for Sansweet. He was buying singles or doubles of everything when they were on store shelves for the first time. Looking at his Kenner toy section makes it feel like Christmas 1979 all over again, seeing all the familiar—and often still unopened—*Star Wars* toy boxes. But this collector strives for the rarest of the rare action figures.



(1) and (2) Cases in Sansweet's museum contain real-life artifacts, such as models, costume parts, helmets, and stunt weapons from the Classic Trilogy. (3) Rare action figures, including prototypes that were never produced and a missile-firing Boba Fett. (4) The coveted "birthday" theatrical poster, given to theaters showing *Star Wars: A New Hope* for an entire year. (5) The Steve Sansweet action figure, created for the collector by Gentle Giant Studios. (6) Original marquee letters from Lure's Orpheum Theater in New York City. The large, striking letters were first hung at the theater in May of 1977, and now hang in Sansweet's museum.

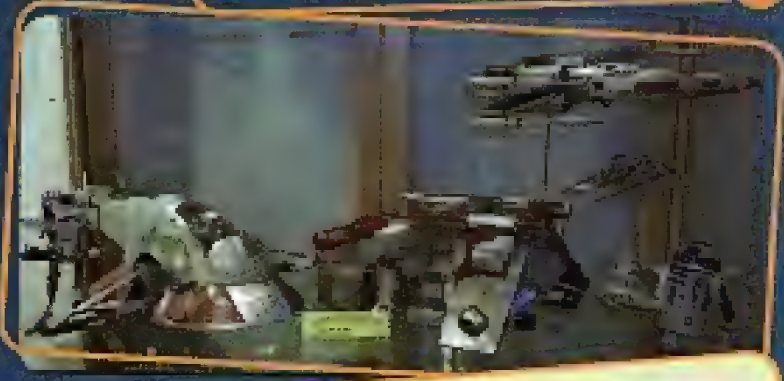


"This is my prototype shelf," Sansweet beams, indicating a row of rarely seen figures. "Here is a complete line of Droids and Ewoks figures [based on the cartoon series] that were never produced—with one exception: Vlix was made in very limited quantities in Brazil. But the rest of these are first shots or other early versions." Many other action figure rarities also reside inside this cabinet. A missile-firing Boba Fett, the second version, and Yoda d'ol' Gargen, a prototype version and a fan-made version of what it would have looked like had it been produced. There are also several unpainted pieces. And then there's the ultimate figure for this particular collector, the un-official Steve Sansweet action figure, which was done by Gentle Giant.

"I was the last scan they did before they packed up their gear in Australia for Episode II," says Sansweet. Then they had him send the action figure he wanted his head mounted on. After much deliberation, Sansweet decided on a classic. "Obi Wan is definitely my favorite character, the mentor, despite some possible character flaws." Hence, the name for his property: Rancho Obi-Wan.

Even in the Sansweet Collection, sometimes you come across some standard collector's fare, like the Classic Trilogy posters that he's displayed since his days in Los Angeles. Starting with the advance one-sheet from the autumn of 1976, the advance of March 1977, the U.S. Theatrical one-sheet, the International theatrical one-sheet, and all of the rest of the classic posters. But just as one may begin thinking that posters seem a little tame for Sansweet's collection, it starts to get more interesting as he stands next to a poster featuring a birthday cake with some action figures on it.

"Collector's love this one, and it's a pretty rare poster because it mainly went out to theaters that were still running *Star Wars* after a



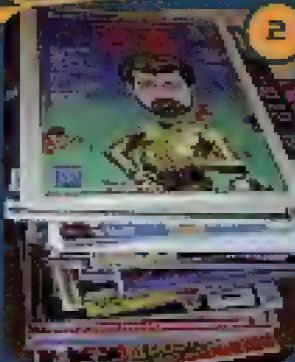
Russian Three-Sheet *Star Wars* Poster

"I still find posters that I never knew existed. This is a three-sheet from Russia from 1991 that I just picked up. And it's one of the more bizarre *Star Wars* posters. There are three different Russian posters, and I have two of them, and this one says 'Star Wars, a Galactic Western.' Sansweet had to double-check his Russian books to make sure it did indeed say *Star Wars*, because it seemed so unlikely looking at the image of a cowboy made out of circuit boards.

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(1) and (2) Sansweet's shelves are overflowing with books, including the Star Wars book series published by Chronicle Books. (3) and (4) Sansweet's collection of posters, including the original Star Wars poster (1977) and the original Star Wars poster (1977). (5) Sansweet's collection of Star Wars posters, including the original Star Wars poster (1977) and the original Star Wars poster (1977).

year," says Sansweet. "It really tells a great story when you look at release patterns today and you see how many screens movies are opening on. *Star Wars* opened on 32 screens. It took an entire month before it opened on 100 screens. And so a year later it was still running. Because of the one-year anniversary, 20th Century Fox got it to open up on some more screens, and they probably printed about 1,000 of these posters. So they are very highly prized." This particular poster is also great for a trivia quiz, because, as Sansweet says, "Every collector knows there were twelve original figures. But the poster only shows eleven. What figure is not represented?" The answer is the Jawa. And here's his reasoning: "It makes sense because you have a little figure in the middle (R2-D2), and then they go out sort of by importance, and the Jawa would have to be in the back here, and it's really too small."

Even posters that seem conventional are not when looked at through Sansweet's eye. Take *The Empire Strikes Back* "Gone with the Wind" poster by Roger Kastel. "This poster is probably one of my favorites but was withdrawn fairly early," says Sansweet. There are two theories on why it vanished so quickly: "One, Billy Dee Williams wasn't in it," he says, "and two, there wasn't enough action in it for Fox. So, it was replaced by a poster with Billy Dee and more action." All in all, Sansweet has nearly 3,000 posters from around the world, but there were more than just movie posters when the films came out, and he has these objects as well.

"This is the hand-painted banner that was used by Lucasfilm at World-Con and Comic-Con in 1976. And I have a photo in my *Star Wars* Scrapbook (Chronicle Books, 1998) of Mark Hamill standing in front of that. It uses Ralph McQuarrie's silkscreen art, and I am told that those letters were hand painted by Joe Johnston." If that wasn't amazing enough, he has another stunning one-of-a-kind piece. "Those are the original marquee letters from the Loew's Orpheum Theater in New York City," explains Sansweet. "They went up in May 1977. They were one of the original theaters, one of the first 32 to show the film." Of course, the collection also has thousands of T-shirts, bedding items, food-related products, every toy ever sold in the U.S. and most foreign ones, costumes, glassware, personal grooming items, lamps, badges, ceramics, lightsabers, patches....the list is virtually endless. "Kevin Smith, the director, was over to tape a show for the Sci-Fi Channel, and he kept challenging me to find things," Sansweet says.

Pieces of the Death Star

"These are all pieces of the Death Star from *Star Wars* and *Return of the Jedi* that I acquired over the years. Most of the surface pieces of the Death Star are just six different patterns in three different sizes, arranged in very creative ways. What really surprised me was the fact that they also used painted cardboard towers," chuckles Sansweet. He has spotted them recently in behind-the-scenes photos. "Oh, there are 'my' painted towers!"



Illustration by Randy Meekins

"He'd say 'I'll bet you don't have...' and I'd run and get it. He finally gave up after he said, 'You couldn't possibly have a *Star Wars* fan' and I ran and brought three hand-held paper fans from Japan!"

ARTISTIC LICENSE

Steve Sansweet's *Star Wars* museum is big—so big that it has wings. For example, there's the library.

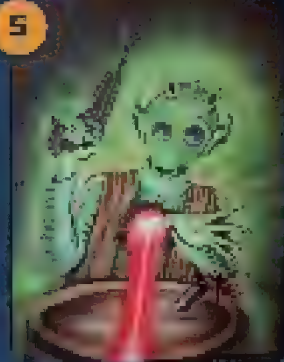
"This is every licensed *Star Wars* book published in the U.S. and all variations." Authors sometimes stop by to make sure that Sansweet has both the paperback and hardcover versions of their books. They rarely leave disappointed. And then there are magazines as well. "I probably have about 3,000 magazines from around the world, from the very beginning, the very first reference in *Starlog* before the movie came out to the latest video game magazines, and all the comics as well," says Sansweet. He keeps LucasArts' video games in the library as well.

Sansweet separates the home video games from the arcade wing. This room is filled with the familiar digitized sounds of the *Star Wars* theme and muffled dialogue from the movies whose games filled arcades across the country in the early 1980s; Sansweet's arcade has all the pinball machines to the latest cutting-edge 3D arcade games like the sit-down version of *Episode I Racer* and the *Star Wars* Trilogy game. But like every other wing in the museum, not everything in Sansweet's arcade is familiar. "Here's a German slot machine that I couldn't believe was licensed," Sansweet remarks. "And Darth speaks to you in German. There's nothing more frightening than Darth Vader speaking in German."

As you move on to the Art Gallery, a familiar face cast in bronze greets you. "This bronze Yoda is from a great artist and sculptor, Larry Noble. He was inspired by *The Empire Strikes Back*, and Yoda in particular. Larry wanted to give George one of these as a gift, so four friends and I commissioned Larry so he could do six of them." One of these sculptures is now proudly standing in front of the main entrance at the new Big Rock Ranch complex (home to much of Lucasfilm), which is a source of pride for all of those involved. Sansweet's gallery is filled with many fantastic *Star Wars* images; most are either licensed products or are fan-made pieces, but some are even made by the creators of the films. Some of the most interesting pieces are several concept drawings of Boba Fett by Joe Johnston, images depicting the bounty hunter performing actions that weren't seen on screen until Boba's father Jango came to life in *Episode II*. "There's a continuing theme in the collection," Sansweet points out. "I love fan-made pieces. I buy fan stuff. I really admire the passion that fans have for *Star Wars*."

When asked exactly why he has assembled this massive collection, Sansweet explains that his hobby is "not so much a goal of acquiring things so much as of displaying it and sharing it with friends and fellow collectors. The most fun of the collection is seeing the look on people's faces when they come to the top of the stairs for the first time and take the whole thing in." The joy for Sansweet comes from showing and sharing the collection he has worked so hard to put together with the people for whom *Star Wars* resonates, the ones who believe that, as Kenner's slogan once said, "*Star Wars* is forever." One look at Rancho Obi-Wan, and you know the truth of that phrase. 🌟

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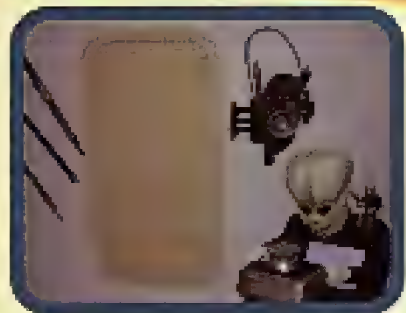


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(5), (6) and (7) Scenes from the art gallery, including original art by John M. Johnson, original Boba Fett sketches, and a bronze Yoda by sculptor Larry Noble.

Mos Eisley Cantina artifacts

"These are the cantina instruments that were rebuilt for the Dorling Kindersley book, the *Star Wars* Visual Dictionary. The original instruments apparently no longer exist," Sansweet explains before moving on to something even more remarkable. "This is one of the original Mos Eisley Cantina doors, the one in front of which the Jawas napped. When [author] David West Reynolds went to Tunisia on an expedition, he tracked down the guy who rented the building to the production and



asked him if he had any *Star Wars* stuff left. He spotted this door in the distance on the guy's chicken coop! It's here on loan from David."

Princess Leia's Necklace for A New Hope

"That is the same necklace that a jewelry company in Finland, Lapponia Jewelry Oy, made for *Star Wars*. They are still making it today. It's pretty amazing," Sansweet says.



A Fistful of CREDITS

The *Star Wars* Insider Collector's Spending Spree Challenge

By Pete Vilmar

What would you do with a \$100 bill burning a hole in your pocket? Spend it on *Star Wars* collectibles, of course! Insider recently gave five lucky collectors \$100 each to see just what kind of collectibles they could squeeze out of it. To ensure their findings would reflect their individual collecting tastes, the contestants were instructed to shed their instinctual frugal-mindedness and hunt for pieces expressive of their love for the hobby. Each veteran collector exhibited an uncanny skill at scoping out good deals anyway, proving that bargain hunting is not beneath the experienced collector.

The five participants each have a focused idea of what a *Star Wars* collection should contain. Because of their advanced tastes, their interests have evolved to include items from the more esoteric realms of the hobby. Many testified that the best deals to be had are from these untapped areas often overlooked by the masses. These might include patches, buttons, T-shirts, board games, or stamp sets—all of which fly under the radar of most collectors new to the hobby. What becomes clear from the pattern of choices defined below is that any *Star Wars* item can find context in the hands of an experienced collector. Vision, it seems, is what drives the intrepid collector to the end of his or her resources to express a passion for all things *Star Wars*. Obviously, these five have a vision of what the perfect *Star Wars* collection should be, and they will use every last penny to fulfill it.

Grace Under Pressure Award: Todd Chamberlain

Amount spent: \$95.50



"One thing about my approach to collecting that differs from some collectors is I don't feel the need to be complete with everything I collect. There are definitely some runs I want complete, but in other areas, I'd rather build an eclectic mix that represents different types of items. This approach doesn't mean buying one of everything—you need to decide what appeals to you and the direction you want to go in the long run."

Though Todd will typically network over a broad range of resources, he chose eBay in this instance to produce more immediate results. His

vast collection consists of an exotic array of the mainstream and obscure, with a special nod toward vintage displays. Though his first find ended up costing him a little over half of his \$100 allotment, most would agree it was an astute purchase: a header display card for the 1980 Meco album called *Christmas in the Stars*, which exhibits the wonderful album cover art by Ralph McQuarrie. Cost: \$51.

"I love the colorful graphics that capture the style of the era," Todd explains, "and it's a nice size that can be easily displayed without taking up too much room." Displays are one of the hottest categories in *Star Wars* collecting, and with an artist like McQuarrie designing this one, it's sure to be a safe investment.

Next, Todd found a piece that had long been eluding him. The *Star Wars* Tenth Anniversary patch, which arrived in a lot, cost him \$15.50. "I've always considered patches a 'classic' collectible," he notes, "and their bright colors and small size make them ideal for easy display." Todd has methodically been putting together a collection of the licensed vintage patches, and this one nearly completes the set. Because the tenth anniversary occurred on the cusp of what collectors call the "dark age" of *Star Wars* collecting (1987-92), items such as this glowed in the twilight of what collectors now consider its golden age.

Todd's next find comes from a rapidly growing sector in the *Star Wars* collecting hobby. He was able to grab a full set of six unused box flats from the popular *Star Wars* Dixie Cup series for an unbelievably low \$21.50. Box flats have recently enjoyed a surge of enthusiasm among collectors of vintage Kenner and General Mills cereal boxes. "I generally like to have products inside the packaging," he says, adding, "but it's also fun to have a prototype item like this that has graphic appeal and doesn't take up nearly so much space as a



full box." With room as a premium in Todd's collection, box flats are a perfect alternative to collecting the bulkier products themselves, with the added appeal of "pre-factory" status.

Todd's last purchase defines the true mark of an advanced collector: Reference material. For the bargain price of \$7.50, he was able to snag a 1980 Sears Toy catalog, which holds important information for the specialized collector. In recent years, collectors advanced in the vintage Kenner lines have sought out groupings of figures packaged in their original white shipping boxes courtesy of Sears, Penny's, Wards, and so on. In addition, Todd explains, "They record what was being sold when, and for what price." He is also drawn to the catalogs purely for their nostalgic appeal.

Trendsetter Award: Lisa Stevens & Vic Wertz

Amount spent: \$100



Lisa Stevens & Vic Wertz
"Vic and I tend to collect anything related to Star Wars. Seeing as how our collection has grown pretty large, we tend to buy items that you can't get at retail. We also look for items that are fairly rare, even if they are only collected by a smaller subsection of the Star Wars collecting population."

Lisa and collecting partner Vic have amassed such a large collection of commercially available Star Wars items that they have now taken on the realm of the non-commercially available. Items such as prototypes and promotionals now guide their collecting interests, which is typified by their first find. The Star Wars Celebration I staff t-shirt went for over \$50 in the months following the 1999 event, but this tenacious team was able to find one for less than half that cost at \$22. "Most collectors aren't searching for these specifically," explains Lisa, "so deals like this slip through the cracks." With many beginning to appreciate the pop-art appeal of the T-shirt in recent years, iconic examples like this one are sure to garner some attention in the near future. Being a staff-only exclusive just enhances this tee's appeal.

Lisa and Vic's next find illustrates the importance of good information in the highly competitive category of figure prototypes. With the recent rash of Star Tours figures coming out of Disney's theme parks, Lisa and Vic got word that the \$K-Z38 figure had been recalled due to a sharp schnozzle. "With this knowledge in hand," Lisa notes, "we went to eBay to specifically look for prototypes out of Hong Kong that had the earlier nose." The figure eventually appearing on store shelves would exhibit a retooled, child-friendly nose. With the crossover appeal of this Star Wars/Disney figure a sure bet, it is nothing short of a miracle that they were able to get this pre-nose job prototype for a mere \$30.

Their next purchase would be the second of three T-shirts bought on-the-cheap, this one an exclusive to Star Wars CCG tournament volunteers, coordinators, and finalists. "A year or so ago, these types of T-shirts from Decipher were bringing in \$20-plus, so I was happy to snag this one so cheaply," explains Lisa. It's amazing that an insider exclusive such as this can be had for a low \$6.

Equally impressive is the paltry price paid for a related exclusive, the Jedi Knights League Kit. For \$5, the duo picked up this kit, which they explain was "sent out to tournament coordinators so they could set up a



league for the Jedi Knights Star Wars game from Decipher." This is a nice find, as the Decipher CCG series' expansive database and unique imagery make it a candidate for fervent nostalgia among gamers and card collectors alike.

The third and final T-shirt that Lisa and Vic would pick up was a staff exclusive for Disney's Star Wars Weekends. A recently inaugurated annual event occurring only at Disney World Orlando, it has ushered in an entirely new crowd of crossover collectors. These shirts have become highly sought after by Star Wars and Disney collectors alike. "When I was there this year I saw that they still wear these same shirts," says Lisa. "I can remember these going for over \$100 after the first Disney Star Wars Weekends back in 2000." Lucky for Vic and Lisa, they were able to sneak away from eBay with this one for \$12!

Because of the well-established insider nature of their last find, Lisa and Vic were forced to pay top dollar. The Magic of Myth Brooklyn Exhibit press kit was given exclusively to the press for promotional purposes, with very few landing in private hands. Press kits are sought after by a wide range of collectors because of the wealth of information they tend to offer on whatever entity they are designed to promote. For this reason they are often hard to find with a cheap price tag. According to Lisa, "the \$25 price wasn't a steal, but tends to be what these items go for on the market."

International Tour De Force Award: Hugh Williams

Amount spent: \$98



"I knew a long time ago that I wouldn't have enough money or space to house a true-completist's collection, so I decided that I'd go after a sampling of all types of products. This way, I'm free to pick things up without having to worry about getting the rest of the set—as long as I've got a sampling, I'm happy."

Because Hugh is the only collector from the panel living north of the 49th parallel, tax and shipping costs were not figured in to the collective totals to maintain a level playing field. That said, Hugh represents the collector with both vintage and modern tastes, with a decidedly sophisticated means of scouring the globe to fill his collection. As an unabashed e-shopper, Hugh found his first two pieces online from a

store called Legends, in his native Canada. As it happens, he picked up a Canadian Hasbro Boba Fett Pit of Carkoon figure for \$7.50 along with a duplicate for good measure. "If I see a *Star Wars* item that is on sale or unique for one reason or another," he explains, "I may want an extra handy for the next time I want to make a trade." Hugh says he finds the look of this particular figure very appealing, with the added bonus of an in-pack catalog exclusive to this wave of the Canadian line. Hugh adds, "Whenever possible, I pick up the Canadian carded versions of each figure because I like having something a little different than the norm."

Hugh found his next piece online and an ocean away. He was able to grab a U.K. exclusive Episode II Monopoly game for \$29 from www.thetoyshop.com. Complementing his existing collection of *Star Wars* Monopoly games, this one was an unexpected discovery. "I was surprised to find it because I actually wasn't aware it existed," says Hugh. "The packaging and product look fun, it's an exclusive that wasn't available in North America, and it was on sale!" Though *Star Wars* board games haven't caught on in the collectibles market yet, beautifully designed and engineered pieces like this are sure to have their day in the sun, especially when one considers its regional distribution.

Remembering that a new *Star Wars* metal lunch box had been released last year, Hugh headed over to www.lunchboxes.com to buy one for \$19. "The classic artwork and the metal lunch box (instead of plastic) make for a nice collectible," suggests Hugh. Metal lunch boxes seem to be enjoying a second wind of late, with the *Star Wars* spoof *Hardware Wars* making its pressed-tin debut recently. Any chance we might get these kids together?

Continuing his trend of snooping out cross-over collectibles, Hugh next directed his mouse toward the Australian Post website www.auspost.com. There he found an Aussie exclusive *Attack of the Clones* stamp sheet for \$13, which he describes as having "a clean, bright presentation, making it a nice item to have on display." Noteworthy for their outstanding graphic appeal, saga stamp sheets seem to be enjoyed by both *Star Wars* and stamp collectors alike. Time will tell if their value will rise with the postage rates.

Bending to the omnipotent gravity of eBay, Hugh finally found himself bidding on a vintage *Star Wars* Poster Painting Set. For the bargain price of \$10,

he was able to get himself a mint sealed example. "I originally got one of these from Woolco back in 1978 when I was a kid," Hugh explains, "and naturally I ripped that one open and painted it up." In this day, it's amazing that any vintage item bearing the *Star Wars* logo under sealed cellophane can be had for a ten-spot. The Force was indeed with him.

Snapping himself out of eBay orbit, Hugh was finally back on course toward his final destination. At www.dnstoys.com, he found the Asian exclusive Mini Naboo Fighter with Anakin figure, a piece that he had long been holding out for. "In 1999, I was able to pick up several of the miniature figures that were released alongside this toy," says Hugh, "but the price on this item was always too high for me." Four years later and several dollars cheaper, Hugh was able to finally put this baby to bed with his other minis for a mere \$12.

Physical Endurance Award: Duncan Jenkins

Amount spent: \$100



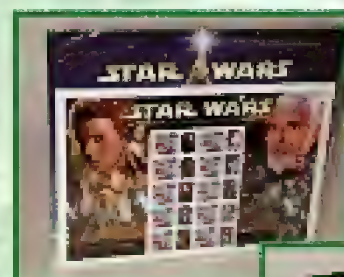
"One of the advantages of being a completist is that I can always find something I need. Overall, these purchases are indicative of the types of *Star Wars* items I look for: Old and new items; US and foreign items; items of interest to most collectors and items of interest to first collectors. In a word, 'anything.'"

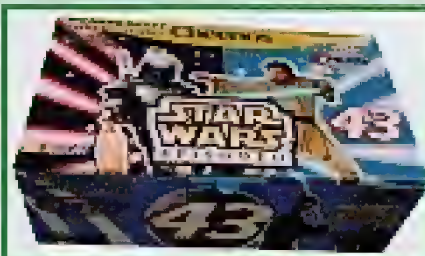
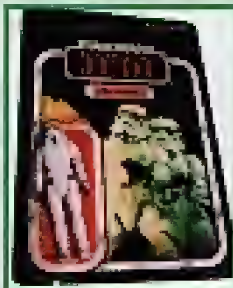
Duncan is the only panelist with the self-destructive notion of being a completist. These frailties aside, he has proven to be a highly proficient collector with an ability to procure items from the farthest corners of the globe. Duncan decided to employ some old-school scouting skills within a brick-and-mortar setting at the Kane County Toy Show just outside Chicago. With over 1,000 dealers under one roof, it didn't take long for Duncan to target his first find. A sealed example of the Cheerios *Attack of the Clones* die-cast Andretti racecar was the first to catch his eye. He eagerly snatched it up for a cheaper-than-retail \$30. "Being very interested in food-related *Star Wars* premiums," Duncan explains, "the tie-in to the Cheerios *Attack of the Clones* promotion made it appealing to me." Destined to be sought by NASCAR, advertising, and *Star Wars* collectors alike, this limited-to-3000 piece was definitely a sound speculative buy.

Ever the slave to the vintage action figure line, Duncan next found a Jedi 65-back Stormtrooper on a Palitoy card. "Although it is not particularly rare," he confesses, "I was missing it in my foreign carded figure collection and at \$40 I decided to get it." Long gone are the days when foreign carded figures were shunned by U.S. collectors, with early Palitoy and Toltoys pieces commanding a premium.

Next, Duncan would experience that rare happy moment when a collector is able to reunite two long lost pieces that should never have been parted. What appeared to be the top to the Darth Vader Figure Carry Case and what the seller had mistaken for a cake mold, Duncan recognized as the rare Data East Darth Vader pinball topper. "As I handed him the \$10," Duncan explained, "I decided he probably did not bake very much as I pictured someone sticking a plastic 'cake mold' into a 350-degree oven." Happily, Duncan was able to return home with his trophy and replace the one missing from his own pinball machine purchased years earlier.

Leaving brick-and-mortar for cyberspace, Duncan scrolled the eBay





listings to discover a rare Venezuelan version of the *Escape from the Death Star* board game which he was able to grab for \$10. This would be the eleventh version of this game to find its way into his collection. "One of the fun aspects of this subset," Duncan explains, "is that the U.S. version is arguably the most common collectible from the first movie, while the other versions can be very difficult to find." One can definitely appreciate the cultural impact of an entity that spawns at least eleven versions of the same board game. As our global society is learning, the far-reaching appeal of *Star Wars* cannot be underestimated.

For his last stop, Duncan found himself once again perusing solid shelves of merchandise at the local Walmart. A big fan of the Action Fleet series, he picked up Luke Skywalker's *Snowspeeder* for a few cents short of the \$10 left in his pocket. Initially a fan-favorite, this line experienced a modest production slump in recent years but seems fortunately on the rebound. Fans would be well-advised to pick up the obscure releases in this series since it will likely emulate the popularity of the late-blooming Micro Collection from the vintage line.

Dash of Intrigue Award: Gus Lopez

Amount spent: \$100



"I collect what I like. I spend most of my time researching my areas of interest, learning about what's out there, particularly items that are not documented anywhere. At this stage, most of the items I encounter are fairly out of the mainstream of *Star Wars* collecting. Information really is the key to amassing a *Star Wars* collection, so I leverage as much info as possible to search out these obscure things."

Gus, who's been collecting since his childhood in the late seventies, has had years to develop a keen nose for significant finds, and a finesse for rooting them out. Utilizing a broad network of sources and cultivating lasting relationships with fellow collectors, he has pulled together an eclectic assortment of wares that would leave even the most jaded collector envious. Not surprisingly, his first find would illustrate his characteristic *modus operandi*. Catching a lead on a rare Jawa Bop Bag up for auction at eBay, Gus was able to grab the elusive piece mint in the box. "A friend of mine, Nick Zurawski, has been working on his own set of bags and remembered that I was still missing the Jawa bag," he explains. The friend's tip allowed Gus to pick up the rarest in a foursome of *Star Wars* Bops for \$57. The novel appeal of these aptly named toys has never waned among collectors of the early lines.

A fervent gatherer of the early *Power of the Force* collector coins, Gus was surprised to discover a new variation in one from the Droids

series. "In a recent discussion on Rebelcum," Gus points out, "Jeff Correll posted a discovery that he'd found two different Droids Kez Iban coins, one with a dash between Kez and Iban (Kez-Iban) and one without." Armed with this privileged info, Gus checked his own collection to find his silver prototype lacked the dash, while his production gold version had it. Hitting the phones, he contacted Brian's Toys, who luckily happened to have a silver prototype Kez with the dash for \$30. Snatching it up, Gus proceeded to scan eBay for the production gold coin, hoping to find a dashless version. Miraculously, he was able to find a dashless gold in the rough, which he nailed for \$10. "Although this episode sounds a little over the top," Gus confesses, "this is the kind of detailed digging that is not uncommon among collectors who have been doing this for some time." Gus adds that getting the information first is the key, since there is certain to be a rush of interest in an otherwise common coin once this goes to press!

With a few bucks left, Gus again headed to eBay for a quick fix. Running a series of specialized searches, Gus was thrilled to find an extremely rare piece that had been missing from his collection of early Fan Club material. The Rebel Recruiter button, awarded to those club members in 1981 who were able to sell five memberships, had a standing bid of only \$1. Holding his breath, he closed the bidding at a hair under \$3 and took home a noteworthy fan club memento. "The button has a striking image of the original *Bantha Tracks* logo," says Gus, "and is perhaps the toughest to find original *Star Wars* Fan Club item." Gus points out that because the seller withheld "Rebel Recruiter" from the title, most potential bidders probably overlooked it. Savvy searching techniques, it seems, have become the trademark of the modern day auction-site sophisticate.

Although it might seem that collectors by definition are gatherers, the reality suggests they are really creators. They strive to compose a collection that is greater than the sum of its parts. While most *Star Wars* collectors remain devoted to the toy lines, these five have positioned themselves well ahead of the curve. They employ sophisticated tactics as well as good old-fashioned detective work, which more often than not gives them a leg up on the competition. As engaged by the hobby as these five are, it's a wonder they still keep the cardinal rule of collecting in focus. They still just buy what they like. 🍎



Show & Tell

Are you a collector? That is, are you a *Star Wars* item collector? Send us a short essay and a few photographs showing off what's special about your collection, and perhaps you will be one of the participants in our next *Star Wars* magazine.



SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

A Short History of *Star Wars* Model Kits

By Jay Chladek

When it comes to *Star Wars* collecting, most people think about items like movie posters, store displays, and toys, but few think about model kits. Plastic model kits and the *Star Wars* movies have a unique relationship, because just about every vehicle of the classic trilogy was originally tricked out with plastic kit parts from popular airplane, tank, and spacecraft kits. Parts used in the X-wing models included Saturn V rocket stages, engines from F-4 Phantom jet kits, and part of a Sherman tank turret. Bringing the relationship full circle, *Star Wars* model kits have been around nearly as long as the earliest toys, and they offer great opportunities for collectors and model builders alike.



A long time ago in a hobby shop not so far away, Model Plastics Corporation (MPC) issued the first *Star Wars* kits. At the time, MPC was part of the General Mills Fun Group, which also owned Kenner Toys. The kits issued during the early years featured box art reminiscent of the original

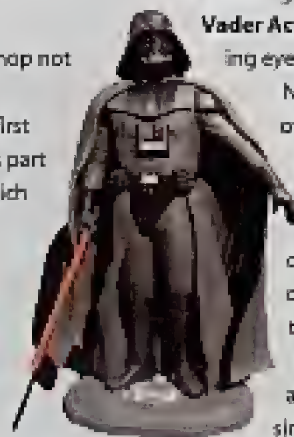
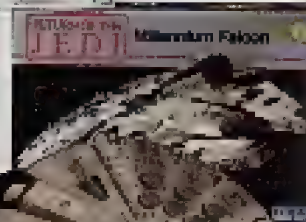
movie posters. The first two kits issued in 1978 were models of C-3PO and R2-D2.

The C-3PO model stands about nine inches tall, and R2-D2 stands about six inches. The R2-D2 kit was

crammed with operational features, such as a pivoting third leg, opening circuitry compartments, and a computer access arm. C-3PO was more limited in its movements but was a decent likeness of the protocol droid. MPC next issued a ten-inch tall figure kit of Darth Vader molded in black plastic, wielding a glow-in-the-dark lightsaber and standing in a menacing pose. The **Darth**

Vader Action Model—a large bust of the Sith Lord featuring glowing eyes and rasping breath sound—was also offered briefly.

Naturally, what most modelers wanted to see were models of the spacecraft, and MPC didn't disappoint, offering kits of **Luke Skywalker's X-Wing Fighter** and **Darth Vader's TIE Fighter**. The scales of the kits were about 1/41 for the X-wing and 1/36 for the TIE. The initial issues of both the droids and fighters were in large, flat boxes, while subsequent offerings came in more compact boxes. Next came the biggest *Star Wars* kit of the time, **Han Solo's Millennium Falcon**. The model was nearly two feet long, and the initial release featured battery-powered lights to simulate glowing engines.



Not all the kits issued from MPC were tied directly to subjects in the film. Three examples were **Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader, and Artoo-Detoo** snap-together *Star Wars* vans in 1/32 scale, featuring custom bodies and glow-in-the-dark markings. Like polyester leisure suits, however, the van model faded with the 1970s, making these kits somewhat rare finds. Even though the subject matter was goofy, many young fans got their start in models by building the van kits.

The Empire Strikes Back

Star Wars favorites returning in *The Empire Strikes Back*, such as the X-wing and Millennium Falcon, were re-issued with large "Empire Strikes Back" stickers added over the original box art. New kits were also issued, starting with **Luke Skywalker's Snowspeeder**. This model was done in approximately 1/25 scale and included features like moving airbrakes and an opening canopy. Next up was a model of the **AT-AT**, accompanied by Echo Base laser turrets and miniature snowspeeders. For Fett fans there was a kit of **Boba Fett's Slave I**. The original MPC *Slave I* can be difficult to find today, as can the original kit of the **Star Destroyer**, as neither was offered for long.

The largest of the *Empire* kits were the diorama sets of the **Battle on Ice Planet Hoth** and the **Rebel Base**. Both featured vacuformed display bases, scale vehicles and lots of tiny figures to recreate battles from the movie. The Rebel base is a favorite of miniature gamers as the set comes with tiny X-wings, snowspeeders, a Millennium Falcon and a Rebel transport. One interesting feature is that the snowtroopers in these sets appear to be based on Ralph McQuarrie's pre-production design with the large dome helmets rather than the design that appeared in the film. The last new *Empire* diorama was the **Encounter with Yoda on Dagobah**, featuring Yoda, Luke, Artoo, and Yoda's hut.

Return of the Jedi "Golden Opportunity"

For *Return of the Jedi*, the kit boxes got a facelift. In place of earlier artwork came photos of the actual subject matter and scenes from the films. The *Jedi* kits also included MPC's "Golden Opportunity" promotion (*Slave I* in *Empire* packaging included the offer as well). All MPC kits from that time featured a number of redeemable tokens printed on the box. If modelers collected enough tokens, they could send away for a free model kit, and not just *Star Wars*. Reissued kits with *Jedi* packaging



included the X-Wing, Millennium Falcon, AT-AT, C-3PO and R2-D2. New subjects included snap-together kits of the X-Wing, Y-Wing, A-Wing, and B-Wing Fighters, and the **TIE Interceptor**. Also issued was a snap kit of the **AT-ST**. For glue-kit fans, MPC offered a **Shuttle Tydirium** and a **Speeder Bike** complete with biker scout. The MPC diorama tradition continued with the **Jabba the Hutt Throne Room**, featuring the crime lord, his minions and Luke.

Later in the *Jedi* kit run, MPC issued toy-like, wind-up models of the **AT-AT, AT-ST** and **C-3PO** in the short-lived "Structors" line.

These didn't meet with much success. Other poor sellers included six "Mim-A-Kits" of the **AT-ST, Shuttle Tydirium, Speeder Bike, TIE**

Interceptor, and X- and Y-Wing Fighters. These were tiny half-models built on a mirrored background to give the illusion of a whole model for display. Examples can be hard to find today. With completion of the

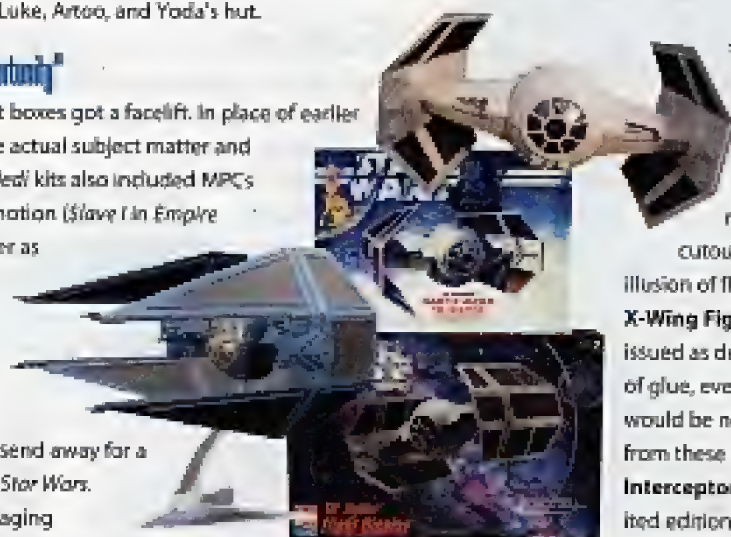
Star Wars trilogy, merchandise sales began to decrease and MPC soon discontinued its line. But, like *Star Wars* itself, this wasn't the end.

Later: Star Wars Models in the Decades

In 1988, the Ertl Company purchased MPC. Ertl already owned a model kit division (AMT) and the resulting MPC/Ertl label was a transitional period before MPC was completely absorbed by AMT/Ertl a few years later. Ertl dusted off the old molds and began reissuing *Star Wars* kits in 1989. Minor changes to the box art included a revised MPC/Ertl logo; different kit numbers and revised artwork. A "Star Wars Commemorative Edition" sticker was also applied over the boxes' clear plastic wrap.

Changes were in store as AMT/Ertl kit packaging was slowly phased in during the mid-'90s. The boxes featured all new artwork by artist H. Ed Cox, featuring some of the most visually striking *Star Wars* artwork ever offered.

Some kits were issued with new features. The **Star Destroyer** was the first, being offered with a fiber optic lighting system. Next came the "Flight Display" models of the **X-Wing Fighter, Vader's TIE Fighter** and **Speeder Bike**. These models featured an acrylic disc stand with cutouts for the model to be fitted, giving the illusion of flight when the model was displayed. The **X-Wing Fighter** and **Vader's TIE Fighter** were also issued as deluxe models with acrylic paint and a tube of glue, even though more paint and building supplies would be needed to produce good-looking models from these kits. The snap **X-Wing Fighter, TIE Interceptor** and **B-Wing Fighter** were issued as limited edition kits in gold chrome plating. The most



Star Wars Rocket Kits—Collecting that Really Takes Off!

Star Wars model rockets are also a popular collecting subject. Model rockets are made out of lightweight materials, such as cardboard, plastic and balsa wood, and are designed to fly on solid-fuel rocket motors. The motors are ignited electrically using a special controller and can send a rocket several hundred feet into the air. At peak altitude, an ejection charge goes off, deploying a parachute or other recovery system and the rocket floats back to earth for its next flight. Model rocketry, as a commercial hobby, has been around since the early 1950s and all sorts of creations from sport rockets to scale models have taken to the air since then. Star Wars model rockets, issued by Estes Corporation, were added to the mix in 1978.

Models of the X-Wing Fighter, TIE Fighter, and R2-D2 were offered initially, along with starter sets of the X-Wing and Proton Torpedo, each containing a launch pad and rocket motors. The R2-D2 and TIE fighter were scale models, with features added for stable flights. The X-wing was more of a semi-scale model, and the proton torpedo was just a specially decorated sport rocket. Soon after came the much larger "Maxi-Bruce" X-wing, designed to fly on more powerful motors. The Maxi-Bruce kit is the same size and scale as the original ILM X-wing models, making it a very desirable item. The original kits weren't offered for very long, but Estes did reissue the X-wing, TIE Fighter and R2-D2 in 15th Anniversary packaging in 1993.

Next, Estes offered newly designed kits of the X-Wing, R2-D2, Vader's TIE Fighter and a Death Star (designed to "explode" into four pieces that float down on red streamers). These kits, along with an A-wing, a Y-Wing and a Star Destroyer, were also offered as pre-assembled models in starter sets. A Millennium Falcon set was planned, but never issued. A mini-engine-powered plastic X-Wing Starfighter was issued as a single rocket and in a Red Squadron set of two with Red 5 and Red 2 paint jobs. The North Coast Rocketry division of Estes also offered a high-powered X-Wing rocket, designed to fly on motors that were about six times more powerful than average Estes motors. This model was similar in size to the older Maxi-Bruce X-wing and was the most expensive Star Wars rocket offered.

Episode I offerings included the Naboo Royal Starship, the Sith Infiltrator, and a Trade Federation Battleship as pre-built rockets. Large Naboo Fighter and Trade Federation Droid Fighter rockets were offered in starter sets. Mini-rockets of R2-D2, the Naboo Royal Starship, a Trade Federation Droid Fighter, and a Naboo Fighter were sold individually as well as in starter rocket sets (accompanied by an R2-D2-shaped launch controller). However, sales of the Episode I model rockets were low, and Estes is no longer producing Star Wars rockets. Some rockets can still be found on sale, and they make great display models, even if they aren't flown.

Death Star weren't great, so plans to issue a Death Star kit with a lighting system were cancelled. The most elaborate (and most expensive) kit released was the X-Wing Fighter issued in AMT/Ertl's Pro Shop line. This all-new model kit contained operating electronic features for the engines, canopy and wings. Switches on the display stand controlled the features and provided sound effects. The kit didn't sell that well, probably due to its hefty price tag.

AMT/Ertl also began to branch out into vinyl figures during this period. Offered first were figure kits of Han Solo and Luke Skywalker. Shortly after, a vinyl kit of Darth Vader was offered, and it was far superior to the styrene plastic kit originally issued by MPC. Other kits



included Xizor from *Shadows of the Empire*, Emperor Palpatine and the Rancor from *Jedi*. In addition to AMT/Ertl's figure kits, relative newcomer Screamin'

Products Inc. offered licensed 1/4 scale vinyl kits of Darth Vader, C-3PO, Han Solo, Chewbacca, Luke Skywalker, Stormtrooper, Boba Fett, Tusken Raider and Yoda.

Screamin's kits were very well crafted and are somewhat prized today since the company is no longer around.

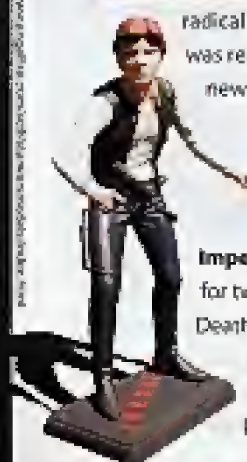
The Phantom Menace Kits

By early 1999, fans and the media were buzzing about the upcoming release of Episode I and AMT/Ertl joined the merchandising blitz to create several new kits. Initially offered were snap-together kits of the Naboo Fighter and Trade Federation Droid Fighters. Also issued was a glue kit of Anakin's Podracer and a die-cast Naboo Starfighter. Kits of the Trade Federation Tank and the STAP with Battle Droid followed soon after. An assortment of snap-together mini-kits were also issued, including models of a Trade Federation Landing Ship, a Trade Federation Large Transport (more commonly known as an MTT), a Republic Cruiser and the Sith Infiltrator.

Sales of Episode I kits didn't meet the high expectations, and several planned kits were never issued. Cancellations included a set of three battle droids (essentially the same as the droid offered with the STAP), and pre-painted kits of the STAP, Trade Federation Tank and

radical reissue was the Cut-Away Millennium Falcon, which was retooled with a lift-off section, revealing portions of a newly tooled ship's interior and other internal workings.

With release of the Special Edition films to theaters, it was only a matter of time before AMT/Ertl began tooling up new kits of popular Star Wars subjects. The first was an all-new kit of the Imperial TIE Fighter in 1/48 scale. The kit included parts for two TIEs and a display stand designed to look like the Death Star's surface. Also issued was a kit of the Virago, from *Shadows of the Empire*. Next came the all-new Cantina Action Scene diorama, followed by a snap kit of the Death Star. Unfortunately, sales of the





Battle Droids. But, AMT/Ertl did issue a nicely done snap-together kit of the **Gungan Sub** late in the run. The sub model is somewhat rare as not many shops carried it.

Foreign Model Kits and Hopes for the Future

Star Wars model kits were not exclusive to the United States. The MPC models were also repackaged and sold internationally. For the Canadian market, MPC offered kits with French and English writing. Denys Fisher, and later, Airfix, sold kits in England. In France, Germany, and Italy, kits came from Meccano, Kenner and Harbert respectively. The Harbert

X-Wing Fighter kit is unique, as it featured peel-and-stick graphics instead of waterslide decals like other versions. The most unique offerings

came from Japan. Revell Takara offered a kit of the **Luke Skywalker X-Wing Fighter** with a light-up R2-D2 in the droid socket and optional rolling wheels. They also offered an **R2-D2** kit that was smaller than the MPC one. The early Takara efforts were more unassembled toys than serious scale models, making these kits rare treasures. Revell Takara also sold repackaged MPC kits.

For Empire, Tsukuda Corporation offered miniature metal pairings of the **AT-AT Snow Walker vs. Snowspeeder**, **Snowspeeder vs. Scout Walker**, **X-Wing Fighter vs. TIE Fighter**, **Millennium Falcon vs. Slave I**, and the **Star Destroyer**. There was also a very rare set of **Darth Vader's TIE Fighter vs. Y-Wing Fighter**, and an oddball resin kit of **Wicket W. Warrick**. During the early 1990s, Argonauts issued kits of the **X-Wing Fighter**, **Y-Wing Fighter**, **TIE Fighter** and **TIE Interceptor** in 1/72 scale and the **Millennium Falcon** in 1/144 scale. They also sold a **Star Destroyer** and 1/8 scale vinyl models of **Darth Vader** and a **Stormtrooper**. Popular figure kit company Kaiyodo also offered 1/6 scale figure kits of **Boba Fett**, **Stormtrooper**, **C-3PO**, **R2-D2**, **Darth Vader**, **Han Solo** and **Princess Leia Organa**. Many of the Kaiyodo kits were imported into the U.S. and sold under the Screamin'



label. When Ertl resumed Star Wars kit production in 1989, many of the reissued kits were offered internationally in much the same packaging, with some exceptions. The **A-Wing Fighter**, **Y-Wing Fighter** and **Speeder Bike** were issued in unique AMT/Ertl packaging for foreign sales.

When Ertl ended Star Wars kit production, it also meant an end to its international offerings. But that wasn't the end for foreign Star Wars models. In late 2001, the Japanese firm Finemolds issued an all-new 1/72 scale kit of the **X-Wing Fighter**. This model has practically set a standard for Star Wars kits as it features incredibly accurate detailing and lots of parts options. The decal sheet alone contains over 100 markings! In 2002, it was followed by 1/72 kits of the **TIE Fighter** and the *Attack of the Clones* **Jedi Starfighter**. Kits of Jango Fett's **Slave I** and other subjects are also planned. Finemolds kits are licensed only for the Japanese market, making it difficult for enthusiasts in other countries to acquire them. Japanese collectors were also treated to a new line of vinyl figure models from Kosobukiya. (Fortunately, Dark Horse has brought these kits to the U.S. market - see the *insider* Holiday Gift Guide on page 28 for details.) But looking at a Finemolds kit, I marvel at just how far Star Wars models have come in the past two decades and what the future could yet bring. 🤖

Crushed

Since many of the more common models don't command a significant value on the secondary market, it's fairly easy to start a good collection of Star Wars model kits. The small runs of the less popular sets, though, mean that some kits are relatively hard to find, so it's still challenging to complete a collection—especially if you choose to seek out some of the interesting foreign models to add some spice to your collection.

One important note for collectors—the shrink wrap on most of the model boxes tends to keep shrinking until the box collapses in on itself, which leaves the boxed collector with the choice of having a nice-but-unwrapped box, or a factory-sealed-but-tragically-flattened package. Some collectors compromise by sitting the shrinkwrap along the edges of the box just enough to relieve the tension, but not so much that the shrinkwrap actually comes off the box.

—Vic Wertz



MUSEUM



The world's most famous archaeologist has finally reached DVD. On October 21, in the U.S. and Canada, Paramount Home Entertainment and Lucasfilm Ltd. release *The Adventures of Indiana Jones—The Complete DVD Movie Collection*. Available in both widescreen and fullscreen versions, all three movies—*Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*—have been meticulously restored with THX digital remastering and now boast a new Dolby Digital 5.1 soundtrack. The three movies will be available only as a set on DVD. While the set has no suggested retail price, it's expected to be available for about \$49.95 in the U.S.

In addition to the three classic movies, the set includes a fourth bonus disc with an all-new illustration by renowned poster artist Drew Struzan. The disc features a treasure-trove of behind-the-scenes material, such as nearly two dozen new interviews with cast and crew: Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Harrison Ford, and others. While he emphasizes that the restored movies are the real jewel in the crown, Jim Ward, Vice President for Marketing at Lucasfilm, points out that the bonus features are both deep and varied. "Laurent Bouzereau did an amazing job going out and contacting and scheduling interviews with all the participants in the film. It's wonderful that George and Steven have participated to the

degree that they have, but we also have people ranging from Ke Huy Quan (*Short Round*) to Alison Doody (*Dr. Elsa Schneider*), Sean Connery (*Professor Henry Jones Sr.*), and Douglas Slocombe, the Director of Photography on the films."

In addition to the two-hour retrospective on the Indiana Jones series, the collection comes with several shorter documentaries detailing specific aspects of the filmmaking. "We focus on Ben Burtt's Oscar-winning work," says Ward. "We focus on Industrial Light & Magic. We focus on the music, with John Williams. And we focus on the amazing stunt work that was done in the films as well."

RESTORATIONS

Film is fragile, and you can't make a great DVD out of a scratched, faded, hissing original. That's why film restoration has become such a critical factor in today's home video market. "People say film lasts a long, long time, but in fact, movies do deteriorate relatively rapidly," says John Lowry, the founder of Lowry Digital Images. The Burbank, California-based company has restored a number of classic films for home video and theatrical re-release. "The quality of the image is very much a function of how well the film has been handled over the years." Some of Lowry's most celebrated work has been on classics such as *Sunset Boulevard*, *Roman Holiday*, *North by*

PIECES

The Adventures of Indiana Jones Finally Come to DVD!

Northwest, and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. Earlier this year his company turned all of its skills and powers toward restoring the adventures of Indiana Jones to the films' original glory.

"We are basically in the business of restoring, cleaning up and extracting information from motion images," says Lowry. "We've done 60 films in the last three years, many of which are well known." Fortunately, the Indiana Jones movies were not nearly as old as some of the classics the company has already restored. Thus, Lowry was more than equal to the task. "There were still a few challenges, but it was much easier than doing a film from the 1930s, '40s or '50s," Lowry says. "The films were in quite good shape compared to most. *Raiders*, though, had a very serious scratch on about 30,000 frames and a blue line that was right across all the faces and eyes of the actors. That proved to be an interesting challenge."

Lowry technicians transferred the film images to digital format at high resolution before poring over every frame to spot imperfections, which were corrected with their proprietary software. "We did a number of things with the granularity, sharpness and the stability of the images, dirt, scratches, flicker—the whole range of things that really come about from film being used over and over through the years," explains Lowry. "For example, in some movies, we deal with hundreds of pieces of dirt per frame—literally millions of pieces of dirt that we have to remove in a motion picture. In the

case of the *Indiana Jones* films, we had maybe 100,000 pieces of dirt per movie. Now, that sounds like a lot, but when you have 172,000 frames, it's only one piece of dirt, on average, every frame or every second frame."

The ravages of time are not the only force against which Lowry fights. Defects present in the original print are also subject to digital correction. Sometimes those flaws were not particularly noticeable on film, but after digital enhancement they are hard to miss. For example, Lowry explains, one bluescreen shot "ended up with blue 'fringing,' and this has been in the movie since day one: a blue fringe around all of the edges. When we

Raiders of the Lost Ark Notebook

A few facts and figures on the original adventure of Indiana Jones:

\$20 million budget
\$383 million worldwide box office
7,000 live snakes
500 Arab extras
300,000 feet of film shot
11,000 individual shots
73 days of filming
8 Academy Award nominations
4 Academy Awards



enhanced it and cleaned it up, it looked pretty ugly." After working on the shot for just a half an hour, "We had removed all of the blue fringing. It's an example of an interesting little case where something could easily be cleaned up by using our automated processes." Lowry's technicians used this power only for good and took great pains not to alter the content of the original image. "Rather than dealing with art, we tend to deal with science," says Lowry. "For example, we make very little, if any, change to the contrast or color or things of that nature. We are not in the color-correction business, because that is an art."

"We can improve the overall quality of the picture, but generally speaking, we try to do it from a very scientific perspective. It is extremely important that we do everything we can not to impair what the director or cinematographer was trying to do in the first place."

Restoring the Indiana Jones series to its original glory has been a thrilling adventure for Lowry. "Oh, I love it," he says. "It's a joy to work on movies of this caliber."

(With reporting by Pablo Hidalgo.)

DOCUMENTARIES

Better known to movie fans as the author of *Star Wars: The Annotated Screenplays*, Laurent Bouzereau modestly describes himself more as a fan than as a film historian, yet few could rival his knowledge and dedication to the movies. Like the celebrated Dr.

Jones, he searches for treasures of the past and makes an adventure of it.

Bouzereau had already written a few books and was working in feature development at Disney when he first got to know Harrison Ellenshaw, a second-generation matte painter known for his work on *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, *Tron* and of course, *Star Wars*. "I told him how much I loved the *Star Wars* movies," Bouzereau remembers, "and I just kept going to his office to bug him about stories and all that stuff. Finally he said, 'Why don't you call Lucy Wilson [of Lucas Licensing]? Maybe she'll be interested in your doing stuff.' Sure enough, I called Lucy, and we started talking about book ideas. Eventually, that led me to doing *Star Wars: The Annotated Screenplays*, and that led me to co-write *The Making of Episode I* with Jody Duncan."

The Lucasfilm connection was an advantage, but Bouzereau had another strong link to the Indiana Jones movies. When Amblin Entertainment needed a documentary filmmaker for the laserdisc edition of Steven Spielberg's 1941, Bouzereau's name came up. "They knew I was a huge fan of Steven but also of the movie 1941, and that I had a collection of stuff. So I basically went in to meet with them. The next thing I knew, they told me to go ahead with the project, and that was the first real, solid documentary I did for Steven."

Since then, Bouzereau has created documentaries for *Jaws*, *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jurassic Park: The Lost World*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and many other films. Since his work on 1941, Bouzereau



Bonus Disc Features



Indiana Jones: Making the Trilogy Documentarians raided the Lucasfilm film archives for an unprecedented behind-the-scenes look at movie-making history. More than two dozen new interviews were conducted with the cast and crew of the Indiana Jones trilogy. This newly produced documentary also includes never-before-seen footage, outtakes, screen tests, production drawings, and photographs, making it the most detailed exploration of these classic films ever produced.

The Light and Magic of Indiana Jones The effects-wizards at ILM reveal how they used groundbreaking techniques in special and mechanical effects such as miniatures, matte paintings, morphing, and more to make Indy's spectacular quests and supernatural adventures believable.

The Sound of Indiana Jones Academy Award-winning sound designer Ben Burtt takes us on what director Steven Spielberg describes as "an adventure in sound."

The Stunts of Indiana Jones The stunt crew from the Indiana Jones movies takes you on a behind-the-scenes look at the intense coordination required by the entire production team to make certain a death-defying scene looks convincing on film.

The Music of Indiana Jones Venture on a musical journey with John Williams as he reminisces about his collaboration with Steven Spielberg and George Lucas on the Indiana Jones Trilogy.

Original Trailers Watch the original theatrical teasers and trailers for the Indiana Jones movies.

Exclusive DVD-ROM Content Each of the Indiana Jones DVDs has the ability to unlock exclusive Indiana Jones content only available through a special DVD-ROM website.

1. Documentarian Laurent Bouzereau.
2. Karen Allen gets ready to fight up Indy's right.
3. A glass wall separated the actors from the truly dangerous snakes.
4. Indy and Marion prepare to spend a lot of time in the Well of Souls.



"The really strange aspect of doing this is that you start thinking this stuff is real because those props are so amazingly good looking."

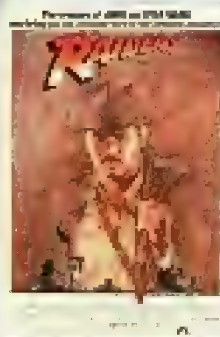
has become Spielberg's documentarian of choice. "I do practically all of his DVD production," says Bouzereau. "I'm on the set when he's filming, and I do a lot of retrospective documentaries."

Even with this wealth of knowledge, to do justice to the famous film series, Bouzereau needed to do a little field work. "I'm an archaeologist in the same sense as Indiana Jones. Actually," he adds with a laugh, "I'm much better-looking than Harrison Ford."

Regardless of which archeologist would win in a beauty contest, they both travel to legendary sites in pursuit of their quests. For Bouzereau, the destination was the Lucasfilm film archives, which he prefers to call a "museum" because it comes with its own curator, Sterling Hedgpeth. Like Indy's pal Sallah, Hedgpeth provided the explorer with crucial assistance in the quest for artifacts to include in the Indiana Jones documentary.

"We looked first at the behind-the-scenes footage and all that stuff," says Bouzereau "and started making selections. We looked at storyboards. [Sterling] dug up animatics and screen tests, and then we went upstairs to look at props and start collecting pictures. The really strange aspect of doing this is that you start thinking this stuff is real because those props are so amazingly good looking. It feels like it really belonged to somebody—that it was not made for a movie. The Grail book that Sean Connery carries in *Lost Crusade* is actually Steven Spielberg's favorite prop. It was real. Everything in it makes sense. It was like a real person's diary. You look at that stuff and think, 'Oh, my God! Maybe those people really did exist.'"

The realism of the props helped Bouzereau immerse himself in the world of the movies, which in turn helped him inspire the cast and crew to recall their work of decades past. "I trigger memories," he explained.



Raiders of the Lost Ark Quiz

1. Before Spielberg talked George Lucas into changing his name to Indiana Jones, what was our hero's name?
2. What is the name of Marion's bar in Nepal?
3. What other famous set used the jungle creepers used in the Temple of the Cachaoyan Warriors?
4. Over three hundred of what object had to be removed from homes in Kenouen, Tunisia, for the scene on Sallah's roof?
5. Which performer did Frank Marshall describe as "impossible to work with?"

Answers: 1) Indiana Smith; 2) The Raven; 3) Dogoosh from *The Empire Strikes Back*; 4) TV antennas; 5) The monkey.

1. Spielberg, Indy stunt double Vic Armstrong, and Ford on the set of *Last Crusade*. 2. Despite such a convincing stunt double, Ford did many of his own stunts. 3. Although he played Indy's father in *Last Crusade*, Sean Connery is only 12 years older than Harrison Ford. 4. Air-powered dummies were used in *Temple of Doom* to create convincing movements for the thugs' guards as they fell. 5. Ford felt that doing his own stunts added credibility to the Indiana Jones saga.

The rest of the conversation usually goes something like this: "Do you remember that prop?" "Oh, my God! That's my favorite prop." "Do you remember this?" "I just saw there were three different dresses for Marion." "Oh yes, and here's a story about it." So it's very important to do that research, and I could not have done it on my own."

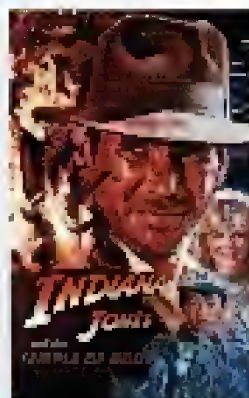
Sometimes, the interview subjects ended up being the ones who pointed Bouzereau in the right direction. "I had interviewed Dennis Muren before I had access to the archives, and he told me about the animatics for *Temple of Doom*. I wasn't even looking for them because I thought there's just no way this stuff still exists, only because the way he described them was like they did it on their little home video camera. I was just like, 'There's no way somebody kept that.' But sure enough, it was there. I wouldn't have known to look for it."

While Bouzereau did not have the opportunity to document the Indiana Jones movies from the set, he sees an advantage in the archeological approach. "You also get the perspective," he says, "because they've all moved on to other things, and they're able to say, 'This is how that movie impacted my career or life, and at the time I didn't know whether it was going to be big' or 'It changed my life' or 'It didn't.' I think that's the difference. Whereas when you're on the set, you get the footage, you get a lot of behind-the-scenes footage, and suddenly you start cutting it in your head. But I think the interviews with the people are a little more reserved, because they are too close to the material."

Bouzereau finds the key to unlocking memories is doing his research before approaching his subjects. "They sit down and say, 'You know what, Laurent? I'm doing this because I love the picture, but to be honest I don't remember anything.' And suddenly you'll spark an old memory with them because you've watched the behind-the-scenes footage or because you've read the script so many times or whatever. And suddenly a spark comes into their eyes, and suddenly the enthusiasm they had when they made the movie is back. That's really exciting for me, and that happened many times on the Indiana Jones DVD. Interviewing people who, at the outset, were doing it because they loved the picture and loved the experience, but frankly felt, 'Well, I don't have much to contribute because I don't remember anything.' And then suddenly you spark a memory with them, and they're back to those days, and suddenly you've got, 'Oh, and the snakes this and the elephants that,' and you can't shut them up. It's your job as the interviewer/researcher to get them excited again and bring them



4



Temple of Doom Quiz

1. Indiana Jones was named for George Lucas' dog. Who was named for screenwriter Willard Huyck's dog?
2. How about Spielberg's dog?
3. What substituted for chilled monkey brains?
4. What famous comedian makes an uncredited cameo as the Englishman who welcomes Indy and Willie at the Shanghai airport?
5. Which two filmmakers also make a hard-to-spot cameo at the airport?

Answers: 1) Short Round, 2) Willie, 3) John O and Whipped Cream, 4) Dan Aykroyd, 5) Producer Frank Marshall and Director Steven Spielberg

back to that time so they can contribute some really great stories."

Bouzereau has no trouble sparking his own memory of the first time he saw *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. "I remember exactly," he says. "I saw it in Paris in the theater on the Champs Elysées. I remember the scene with the snakes because I do have a phobia of snakes myself. That's another thing I have in common with Indiana Jones, aside from the looks. I remember literally having my feet lifted off the ground during that sequence. That left me with a great memory of just watching a movie, feeling like you're there. That's how much it's affecting you: Lifting your legs because you're afraid there's a snake on the Champs Elysées in a movie theater as you're watching *Raiders of the Lost Ark*."

As in his work today, Bouzereau had already done his research before seeing the movie. Because *Raiders* was released in France several months after its U.S. release—and the release of the novelization by Campbell Black—he had already read the story. "The thing that surprised me was that even though I knew how it ended and stuff, it didn't spoil anything. It was as if I didn't know anything, because it was such a visual feast. Knowing the twists and turns of the story didn't spoil it for me. That's how much power the movie had on me."

Documenting the films he has loved for so long has changed the way Bouzereau looks at the trilogy. "Yeah, I have to say it does change your perspective, I think, at least for a while. Especially

"My work, I think, is to entice people to want to watch the movies again."

when you then cut the documentary and watch the movies over and over—not that you get sick of them. It's not like that. You enter another appreciation of it, and it doesn't spoil it. You feel like you own part of it, in a sense, because you know so much about it. You think for a second that you own it, but you don't. It's somebody else's movie of course."

Viewers of the documentaries might feel a similar sense of ownership. He hopes they'll also discover a fresh perspective on the beloved classics. "My work, I think, is to entice people to want to watch the movies again. Watching the movies with the new perspective, then wanting to watch the documentary, then watching the movies again."

Lifting the veil between fan and filmmaker might spoil the magic for some, but not for Bouzereau, who looks forward to seeing the films again . . . after a short break. "A few months from now, I'll say, 'Oh, let's watch *Raiders of the Lost Ark* drinking my Diet Coke and relaxing with my dog, and just enjoying it as much as if I had not done the documentary, just to watch it for the movies."

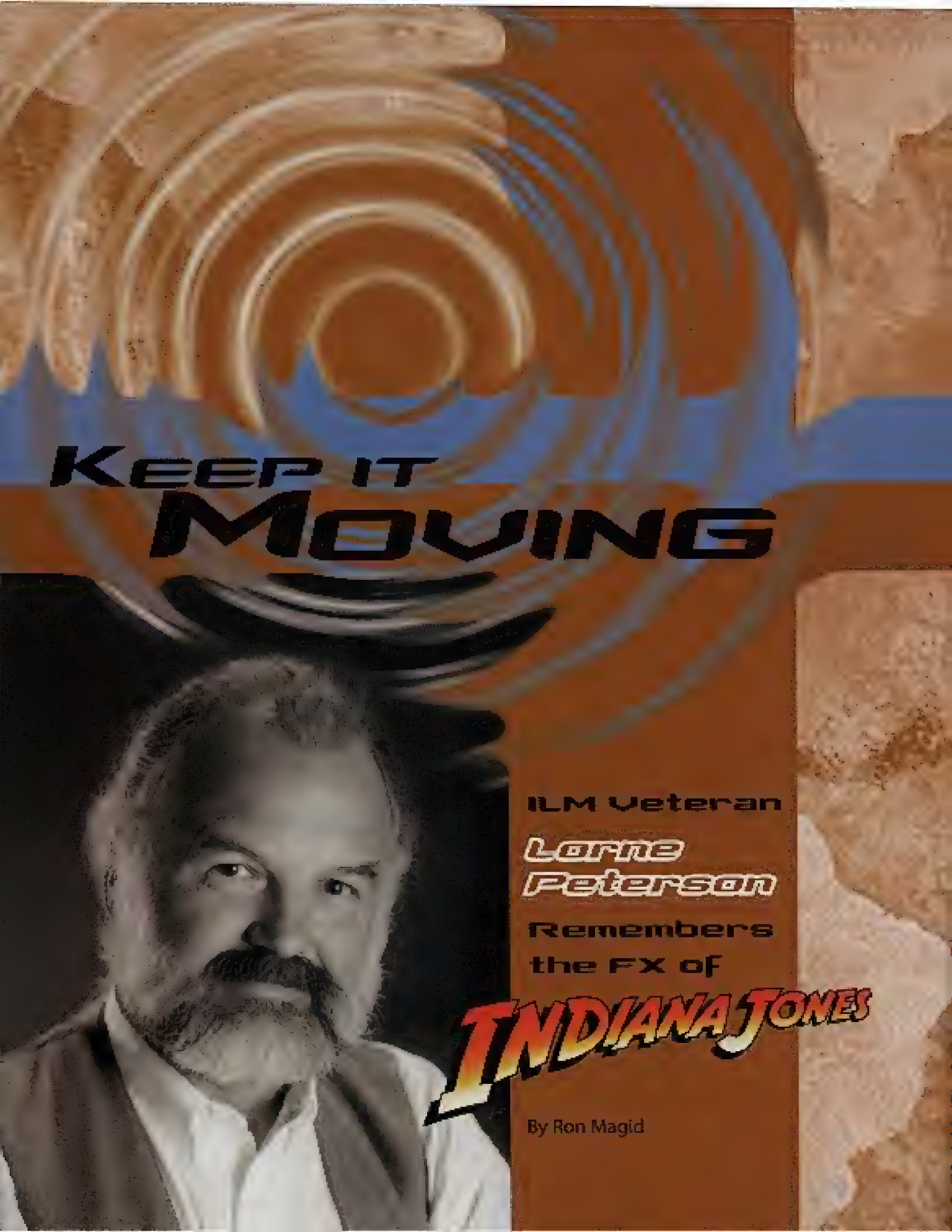
For even more information about the adventures of everyone's favorite archaeologist, visit indianajones.com. 🐍



Last Crusade Quiz

1. Sean Connery, John Rhys-Davies, Alison Doody and Julian Glover are all veterans of what other famous film series?
2. Which Star Wars character did Glover also portray?
3. How many mechanical rats did ILM create for the sewer scene?
4. Actor Michael Sheard (Admiral Ozzel in *The Empire Strikes Back*) makes an uncredited cameo as what character?
5. Sean Connery is a bit young to play Harrison Ford's father. What is their age difference?

Answers: 1) James Bond, 2) General Veers in *The Empire Strikes Back*, 3) 1,000, 4) Hhah, 5) 12 years.



KEEP IT MOVING

ILM Veteran

*LORNE
PETERSON*

Remembers
the FX of

INDIANA JONES

By Ron Magid

It was a heady time for George Lucas and his effects powerhouse, Industrial Light & Magic. Having altered audience perceptions of what movies could be with *Star Wars*, then expanding that consciousness with *The Empire Strikes Back*, Lucas teamed with Steven Spielberg to show audiences something they'd never seen before: the Wrath of God. But he didn't want to do it on a "Biblical epic" budget.

Lucas saw *Raiders of the Lost Ark* as a tribute to those other serials he loved as a kid, with heroes like Jungle Jim searching for fabled treasure. So when he brought in Spielberg, hot off *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and less-than-hot after his pricey *World War II* comedy, 1941, Lucas insisted the motto of *Raiders* would be—in the grand Saturday morning serial tradition—"keep it moving."

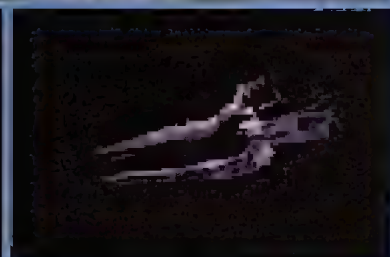


Wax faces, mesh over plaster skulls, as the Nazis place the Wrath of God (above). Lorne Peterson arranges one of Steve Gawley's silk dolls, and ILM resupplies Gwinn Hicks posed as the "Third" (just below right). Dozens of G.I. Joe dolls give their lives for the final effort (lower right).

"George had the attitude that *Raiders* was a 'B' movie, with 'X' number of pages to shoot per day," recalls triple Oscar-winning visual effects supervisor Richard Edlund (*Star Wars*, *Empire*, and *Jedi*). "And if we didn't shoot those pages, then we had to rip them out! I think that philosophy gave the movie the verve that it has."

But *Raiders* represented a new challenge to ILM: This wasn't an outer-space fantasy like *Star Wars*; it was the company's first effects movie set in the "real world," which demanded a whole new standard of realism. Since *Raiders* predated the computer revolution, it employed physical models and cel animation, which then had to be composited into background plates virtually by hand. "On *Star Wars* and *Empire*, you couldn't see the light at the end of the tunnel, but we weren't taxed to the max on *Raiders*," says ILM's current modelmaker emeritus, Lorne Peterson. "On *Star Wars*, which was being done simultaneously, had a much bigger budget for effects, but *Raiders* had a much more fun, seat-of-your-pants feel."

For example, Peterson would be commandeered away from his modelmaking responsibilities to help propel a full-sized German U-boat—itsself commandeered from 1941—across the San Francisco



Bay, with Harrison Ford as Indy riding on top of the tower. Or, when Edlund came up with the idea of incendiary rays blasting from the Ark burning into the Nazi soldiers, Peterson would volunteer to drive down to his favorite Army surplus store in L.A. to grab army shirts by the bale. Edlund knew they were going to need lots of them. "To create the effect of that fire drilling through the Nazis, I fitted harnesses with these great big flashbulbs I discovered, which the actors wore inside their shirts," says Edlund. "We scored the shirts so when the bulb went off, it actually burned right through. The flashbulbs were incredibly bright and hot! So we added—perish the thought!—an asbestos pad so their backs didn't burn. Then we built in a quartz projection lamp to light their faces, and each guy had a switch down one sleeve to trigger his own unit."

"The Nazis also wore little wireframe glasses with retro-reflective tape over their eyes," adds Peterson, "so it looked like their eyes burned out."

After the Nazis were blasted by the Ark, their bodies were supposed to go flying. Peterson used the technology at hand: 12" G.I. Joes, their

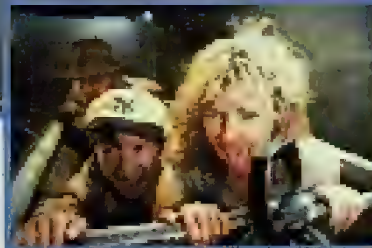
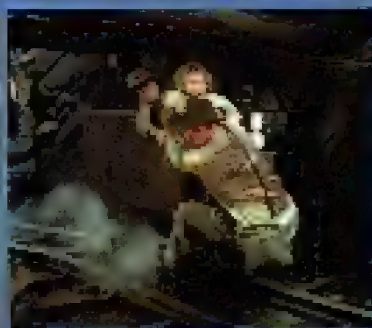
U.S. Army uniforms suitably modified into German ones, were set ablaze. "There were about six of us holding two or three Nazi dolls, soaked full of kerosene, in each hand, with someone standing ready to flame them up," he remembers. "Then we'd toss the flaming G.I. Joes up into the air toward a center point so they all came flying back down toward the camera, which was on the floor facing up through a hole in a net. We used really short cuts, and it worked okay."

It was what happened after the Nazis were blown to Kingdom Come that worried ILM—not to mention Lucas and Spielberg. "It was like, 'And then the ark opens, and all hell breaks loose!'" says the great ILM matte artist, Harrison Ellenshaw. "I didn't work on *Raiders*, but I remember [the script] was very vague. Right up until they finally were in post-[production], everyone was saying, 'Well, what does that mean?'"

It meant that it was up to ILM to supply *Raiders'* climax. In a 15' x 15' upstairs room off the model shop, Chris Walas, Eric Jenson, and Phil Tippett feverishly built wax heads that could melt down over plaster

skulls, while Steve Gawley—another "lifer" still at ILM—was attempting to create ghosts. "Steve did a number of things with wire, silk, and glue, and it just wasn't working," Peterson says. "Then Steve came up with the idea to make the whole thing out of silk, put it in the water tank, and run it like a rod puppet. We put some boards across the top of the tank, dunked the thing down in it, and filmed it backward. The water puppet was used to form the bigger circle of ghosts in the longer shots. Then animation did the swirling light stuff."

But when it came to the "hero" ghost, the one that came directly to camera, ILM was stumped. Until Edlund had an idea: dress a woman in white silky rags, put her on her stomach on a big trapeze rig, then film it backward at high speed to give her hair and clothes that ethereal slow-motion look. Since females were in short supply at ILM in those days, Edlund persuaded the receptionist to play the ghost on the flying trapeze. "So we dressed Greta up and put her on the body pan on a trapeze that makes an arc that almost hits the camera, which was down on the floor looking up at a 45-degree angle," Peterson says.



Michael McAlister consulted Elio Nikon into a movie camera for the mine car chase scene in *Temple of Doom*.

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

The leap in the number and complexity of visual effects from 1981's *Raiders of the Lost Ark* to 1984's *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* was the equivalent of that from *Star Wars* to *The Empire Strikes Back*. But during that three-year period, ILM had experienced a major growth spurt, and the company found itself painfully short on certain resources. Especially inundated was the optical department, the gateway through which every element—miniature, animation, background plates, and so on—had to pass to be composited into the final effects shot. The crew often had to work two shifts around the clock to complete shows. "Optical was so overloaded, and we kept taking on projects," Peterson recalls. "And I was in this meeting with [visual effects supervisor] Dennis Muren trying to think of a way to do *Temple of Doom*. Dennis asked me, 'Can we do this like a miniature live-action movie so as few things go through optical as possible?'"

Peterson's answer would have major repercussions on his career. He promised Muren that his modelers would build complex miniatures so that many shots could be completed in camera, including an elaborate miniature mine, plus a radio-controlled expendable slave puppet that could actually be immersed in bubbling lava, and more. "When we got through with that talk, I remember telling Dennis, 'Boy, this is really gonna put a lot of pressure on the model shop—if it ever comes time to think of awards, make sure my

name's on the list,'" recalls Peterson, who in fact took home an Oscar for his work on *Temple of Doom*. "I was just fortunate that I said that at the right time."

Much has been made of *Temple of Doom's* mine-chase sequence, for which chief visual effects cameraman Michael McAlister transformed a Nikon still camera into a mini-movie camera on wheels, which ran on the actual miniature mine's model railroad tracks, creating some dizzying, Oscar-worthy follow shots of Indy, Willie, and Short Round careening through the mine.

But there is another sequence right after, which Peterson calls "water out the rock face," that is equally breathtaking, as Indy and Willie are nearly drowned by a tidal wave of water. The sequence wasn't entirely in-camera—Indy and Willie had to be added to the shots of the water filling the rocky tunnel—but the environment and the water were miniature. The tunnel was constructed inside a 12'-long sonotube—a 14"-diameter mold made of dense 1/2"-thick cardboard—used for casting cement columns in building construction. While it would have been easier to cut the sonotube in half, dress it, then glue it back together, that would have weakened it to the point where it may not have withstood the liberal tons of

water pouring through. Instead, modelers had to crawl on the inside to dress the set with rocks and timbers. "First we put in all the wood beams, then the rocks," says Peterson. "As it got more detailed in there, we needed smaller and smaller modelmakers to do the work. Randy Ottenberg, a woman who weighed about 110 pounds, and Mark Thorp, who is fairly small, would crawl in from either end toward the middle to do the final dressing. We'd hand tools in to them through the various holes we cut out at the top to let light in."

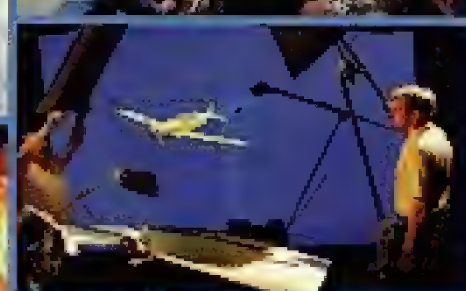
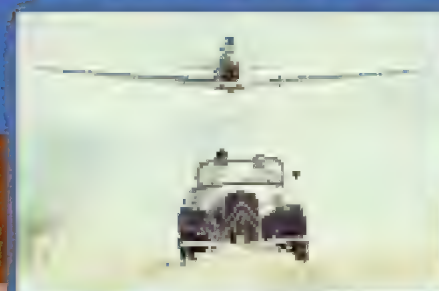
The 12" sonotube containing the miniature mine-shaft connected to another 6"-diameter sonotube that ran to a watertank set some 15' off the ground. When the tank was dumped, 2,500 pounds of water came flying into the set. "We wanted to have a mine car come out of there, but the water engulfed it and you never saw it," says Peterson. "So we tried an experiment: we worked out a propulsion system—like a bow and arrow with bungee cords—and when the water came down, it released the trigger and shot this miniature mine car out. I figured the timing so the car would come flying out at the same time as the water—in reality, we so overbuilt it that this mine car shot out like a bullet. Flew all the way across the parking lot, and hit the side of the building!" 🏹

"They picked her up on the rig, then dropped her back, and all the silk and her hair fluttered back toward camera."

"Then we repeated the same motion with a skull on that rig," Edlund adds, "and did a wipe-dissolve transformation as the skull burns its way through. One of the things that drives me nuts is behind that skull there was a black pole, and I always notice that pole!"

Amazingly, audiences to this day are convinced they see the Ark unleash a zillion ghosts. "We only had one woman on a trapeze and one ghost in a tank," admits Peterson. "We had to build up lots of layers to make those shots, but they're pretty nice."

Although the master shots of Indy and Marion tied to the stake were shot in England, "We shot all of the close-ups of Harrison and Karen Allen at the stake [later with our own] Nazis, and added the fire around them," says Edlund. It was a lengthy, tedious shoot. "After doing take after take with Harrison going, 'Oh, Marion, don't look!' there was one great outtake where he said, 'Aw, [screw] it, Marion! Go ahead and look!'" 🍷



A model Messerschmitt pulled through a sonotube provided a convincing effect for *Last Crusade* (above). Harrison Ford and Karen Allen did take after take for the *Wrath of God* finale (top)

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade

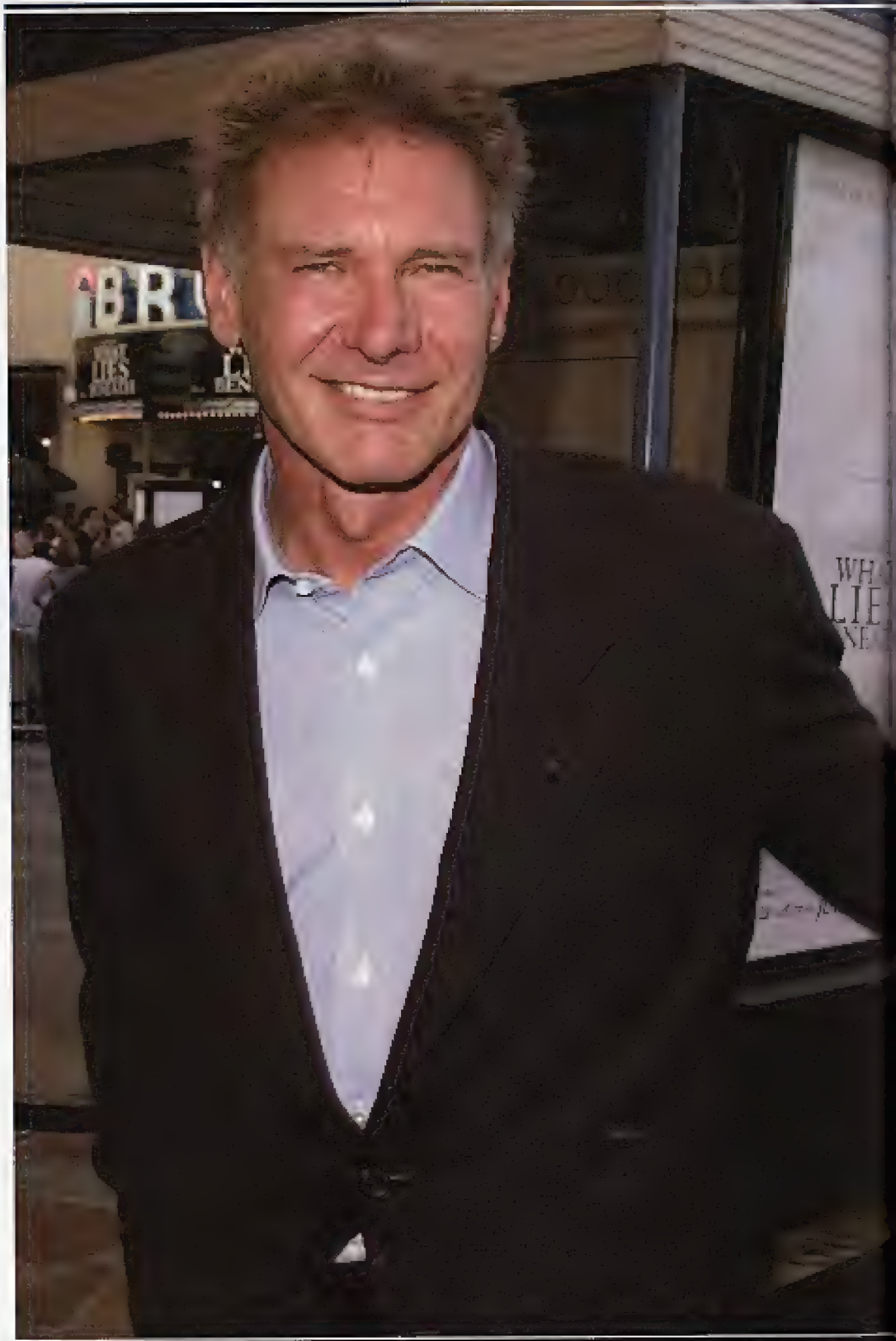
By 1989, when Indy hooked up for a *Last Crusade* with his dad (played by Sean Connery), things had changed considerably at ILM. Whereas in the past they'd worked on a single *Star Wars* film, then graduated to a couple of projects, suddenly the facility was now tackling three or more effects epics simultaneously. And the pressure was growing. "Raiders seemed free and breezy, but *Temple of Doom* was just a march toward the light at the end of the tunnel," says Peterson, who opted to oversee the entire model shop for all the productions rather than staying with a single project (or two) by the time *Last Crusade* was in the ILM pipeline. Although the third Indy was somewhat smaller scale, more like *Raiders*, there were other issues. "It wasn't as much of a quantum leap going from *Temple of Doom* to *Last Crusade*, but Spielberg and Lucas were starting to have this

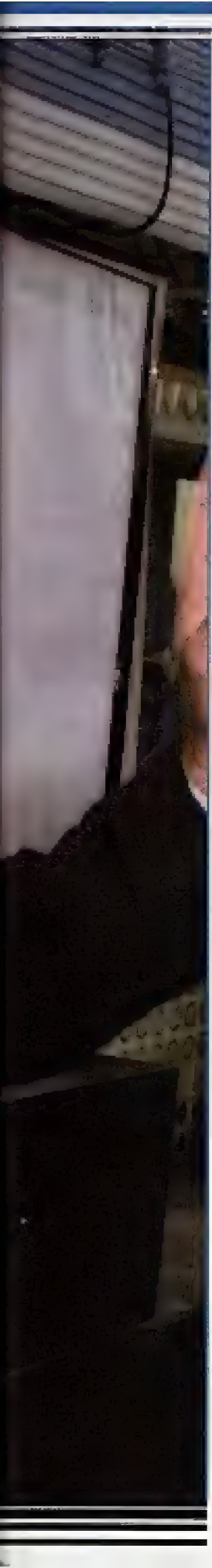
remarkable track record, this drumbeat of successes, grander than the one before, more spectacular, and their pictures were anticipated like crazy. It was a lot of fun, but the responsibility was monstrous."

Last Crusade boasted a remarkable chase sequence wherein Indy and his dad are driving a Mercedes and pursued by a Messerschmidt fighter plane. After colliding with a bunch of pigeons, the airplane follows the Jones boys into a tunnel, shearing its wings off in the process and bursting into flame as it careens through the enclosed space. The simplest way to achieve the effect was to build a model airplane and crash it into a model tunnel with cameras rolling at extremely high speed, which adds a believable slow motion to the effect to sell the illusion of scale. The tunnel was constructed from that ILM staple, sonotubes. Unlike *Temple of Doom*, these sonotubes were hinged so the interior set could be decorated more easily. "They were cut so they had lids, almost like

the lids on a big round barbecue, which could be lifted up," Peterson says. "It had to be a pretty big scale set to make the flames work."

The effect was elaborate: both the 6'-long airplane model and the miniature car were on cables, which allowed them to be pulled through the set at super speed. Meanwhile, the camera was on a set of tracks, shooting at high speed. "Everything—the camera, the car and the airplane—all came through the tunnel about the same time," Peterson says. "When the airplane entered the tunnel, the wings were designed to break off, and the flaming airplane kept on going. It really helped that it was being pulled along so fast—all the flames shot out through the back, which gave a direction to them and made them look reasonably in-scale." 🍷





Harrison Ford on Playing Heroes, INTERVIEW Handling the Paparazzi, and Returning as Indiana Jones

By Gabriela Tschanner-Patao

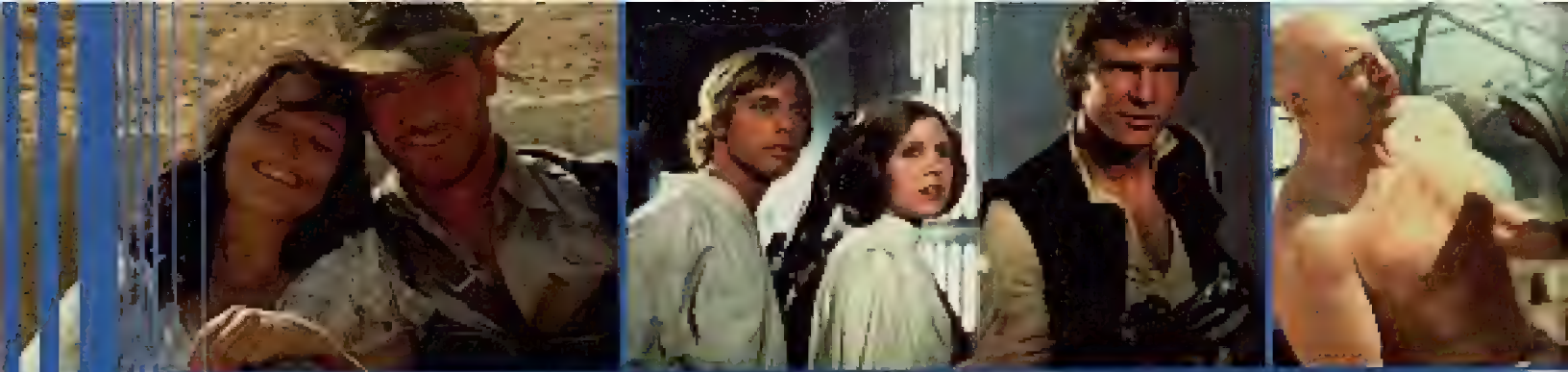
When the American Film Institute recently announced its list of the best movie heroes of all times, Harrison Ford claimed two honors. He placed #14 as the cocky smuggler Han Solo in the *Star Wars* movies and took the #2 spot as the adventurous archeologist Indiana Jones. As cleverly written and carefully crafted as these roles are, the actor made a large contribution to their heroic appeal. His rugged good looks, dry wit, and everyman charm are perfect qualities for adventurers who discover hidden treasures, rescue damsels in distress, outwit the bad guys, and, incidentally, save the world.

In a career spanning more than 30 years, Ford has played presidents and police officers, doctors and secret agents. None of his roles, however, has made such a lasting impact on popular culture as Han Solo and Indiana Jones. Ford credits the movies themselves for the popularity of his characters. "They are as near as you come to classic films these days," he explains during a recent press session to promote *Hollywood Homicide* in Beverly Hills. "Each generation is introduced to them as they grow up, and the DVD release of the *Indiana Jones* trilogy will only add to that. It has helped my career enormously that young people know me through these films."

Some of Ford's recent films—notably *Random Hearts* (1999), *K-11: The Widowmaker* (2002), and *Hollywood Homicide* (2003)—have not been huge box-office hits. Sure, he'd like a big hit, says *Hollywood Homicide* director Ron Shelton. "We all need a hit. But Harrison is a smart actor who makes interesting choices. He'll work for a long time." However, with the release of the *Indiana Jones* DVD Set on October 21, and the prospect of a fourth installment of the series masterminded by George Lucas and Steven Spielberg in his future, the slight bump in Ford's career will soon be a thing of the past.

He explains the process of making an *Indiana Jones* movie as follows: "George develops the script with a writer, this time Frank Darabont. Then

HERO



Whether charming the ladies, punching out the bad guys, or punching up to lightspeed, Ford's characters bridge the gap between the every-man and the hero.

it goes to Steven, and he has a few weeks with the writer, and then he comes to me with the script. By that time it's supposed to be perfect." Ford pauses for a couple of seconds and adds with a laugh, "But it never is. We all agree on a concept and a general tone before we get started. Therefore, I have every expectation that we will be able to pull it together and make the movie."

According to Ford, the anticipation of the DVD release of the *Indiana Jones* trilogy proves the ongoing interest in these movies. "The reason they continue to have value is their stories. Different cultures tell stories that are intended as cautionary tales, be it

of the *Covenant* so appealing." A star and a franchise were born. To this day *Raiders of the Lost Ark* is the most successful of the series, generating more than \$242 million in U.S. box office, although worldwide the trilogy has grossed \$1.21 billion in ticket sales.

"I saw the opportunity to do a character who was instantly attractive to people," remembers Ford. "The script described something so exciting, and the opportunity to work with Steven Spielberg was undeniable. The whole thing was a major dream. Then we had such a good time doing it."

As it is for nearly every sequel to a beloved original, it was difficult for *Temple of Doom* to live up to expectations. Critics weren't too kind to the second installment and when *The Last Crusade* came out 1989, Roger Ebert of the *Chicago Sun Times* concluded:

"The reason they continue to have value is their stories . . . These films are like the Grimm's fairytales of their age."

Bible lessons, paintings on the wall or stories around a campfire. People need stories for comfort and instruction and to feel part of a cohesive human experience. These films are like the Grimm's fairytales of their age."

Keeping Up With the Joneses

When *Raiders of the Lost Ark* opened in theaters 22 years ago, movie critics were beside themselves: "It's one of the most deliriously funny, ingenious and stylish American adventure movies ever made," raved the *New York Times*, and the BBC called Harrison Ford's performance "most effortlessly charming as the original tomb raider that makes his globetrotting quest for the Ark

"When *Raiders of the Lost Ark* appeared, it defined a new energy level for adventure movies; it was a delicious breakthrough. However, there was no way for Spielberg to top himself, and perhaps it is just as well that *Last Crusade* will indeed be Indy's last film. It would be too sad to see the series grow old and thin, like the James Bond movies."

That was then.

Fourteen years have passed since the last Indiana Jones adventure. With sci-fi flicks like *The Matrix* or female-driven action vehicles like *Tomb Raider* or *Charlie's Angels*, the sensibilities of the movie-going audience have changed. The consensus in Hollywood is, it doesn't matter that Harrison Ford isn't a spring chicken as long as he ages gracefully and the story of the fourth Indiana Jones film is hip and fresh.

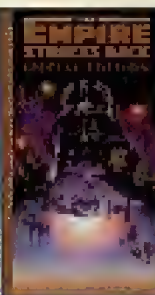
Daredevil stunts have never been Indy's main draw. "The best scene out of all the films was the one where, when faced with a skilled swordsman, Indy just pulls out his gun and shoots the

The Ford Hero-Meter

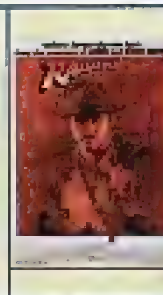
Not all heroes are created equal. Some of Harrison Ford's roles are more valiant than others, and occasionally he plays against type. Here's how some of Ford's characters rate:



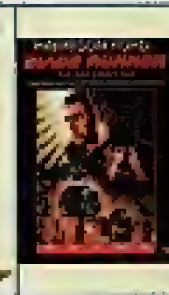
1977 Star Wars: A New Hope
Han Solo shoots first, demands payment, and doesn't show much hero potential until the very end.



1980 Empire Strikes Back
The Empire Strikes Back: Solo argues that he's both a scoundrel and a nice man but gets sealed in carbonite for his trouble.

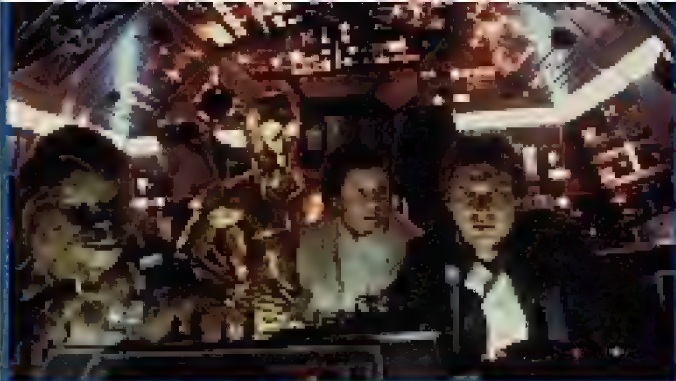


1981 Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom
A witty archaeologist exchanges his toothbrush for a bullwhip. Brains, wit, and charm, the first Indy is the ultimate hero.



1989 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
Rick Deckard hunts rogue replicants while his own humanity remains in question.





guy," says media analyst Adam Farasati of Reel Source in a recent *Entertainment Weekly* article. "The key has always been brains over brawn, and that's given this character longevity that other '80s action heroes like Rambo and Rocky have lacked."

In a time of estrogen-laden action movies, it's possible that a young, female sidekick could take on some demanding stunts in the next *Indiana Jones* installment. An actress with a marquee value would not only help to bring in an audience of teenage girls, she would also keep up the franchise's history of feisty women like Marion Ravenwood (Karen Allen) in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and Dr. Elsa Schneider (Alison Doody) in *Last Crusade*.

George Lucas himself has fueled the rumor-mill with comments that the biggest challenge Dr. Jones might be facing may not involve snakes. "There is a scene where a lot of Indy's ex-girl-friends show up, but they are not major characters," Lucas told

feeling they have very little effect over their own lives. They think there must be some clue in the lives of people who are successful to help them figure out how to improve their own lives."

The headlines have increased since his current girlfriend, *Ally McBeal* star Calista Flockhart, moved into his Hollywood Hills home with her two-year-old son Liam and her dog Webster. The couple fueled the fire by recently agreeing to a cover story in

Entertainment Weekly, hinting at cameos by Allen, Doody, or Kate Capshaw (nightclub singer Willie Scott in *Temple of Doom*). Harrison Ford is quoted to have responded with a wink: "It's probably going to be the best scene in the movie."

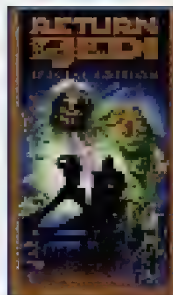
Romantic Lead

If Indy is in for girl trouble in the next film, Ford will be able to pull from his own experience for the character.

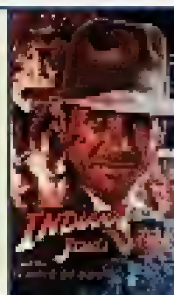
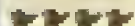
At the age of 60, Harrison Ford suddenly found himself single and dating again. His love life became fodder for the tabloids, a situation to which Ford had not become accustomed, and he says he handles the attention badly. "I'm a target for the paparazzi these days. I don't participate in it, and I certainly don't enjoy it. But as soon as you go out in public, people have the legal right to take your picture." He has his own theory why our society seems to be obsessed with gossip. "I think it has to do with people



Ford and Calista Flockhart met at the 2002 Golden Globe Awards and have been one of the gossip columns' favorite couples ever since.



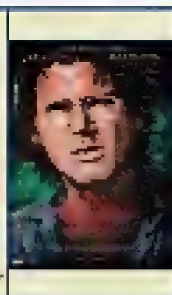
1983 Star Wars: Return of the Jedi
First he needs rescuing, but then Han Solo helps Luke and Leia find the galaxy of the film.



1981 Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom
Jones saves the children of an Indian village in the series' sophomore outing.

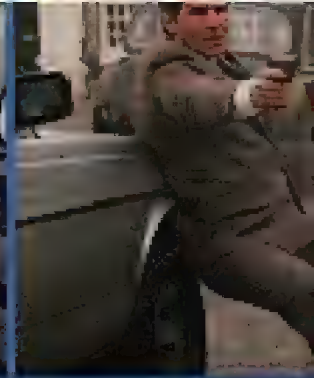
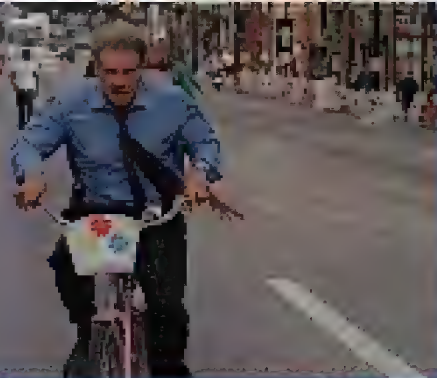


1985 Witness
An unnamed John Bookley overcomes corrupt cops with a speech, and Harrison Ford comes away with an Oscar nomination.



1986 The Mission
Visionary Al Pacino plans to create his own paradise, but his obsession turns it into hell.





Apart from his turn as a villain in *What Lies Beneath*, Ford has played the President of the United States in *Air Force One*, agent Jack Ryan in films including *Patriot Games*, and most recently detective Joe Gavilan in *Hollywood Homicide*.

People magazine in which they put their relationship on display. "Romantic love is one of the most exciting and fulfilling kinds of love, and I think there's a potential for it at any stage of your life," says Ford in the article. "I was not surprised that I was able to fall in love, and I wasn't surprised that I did. But I'm very grateful."

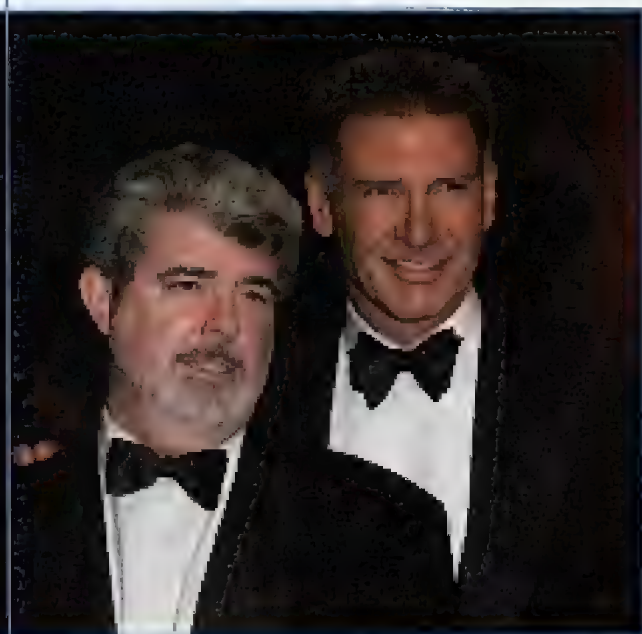
Both Ford and Flockhart claim not to be bothered by their 22-year age difference. As a matter of fact, Ford is quick at giving an explanation for the fascination some women have with older men: "Because young men are so goddamn disappointing!" The

star who used to be fiercely protective of his privacy, now sees nothing wrong with opening up to the press: "The article and photos in *People* magazine are really just acknowledging a reality. I'm not embarrassed by it."

Ford and Flockhart met at the 2002 Golden Globe Awards, where—depending on which of them tells the story—she poured a glass of wine over him to get to know him, or he clumsily spilled the wine on himself. "I didn't anticipate anything," he says. "I just met this girl at the Golden Globes, and we got along fine, and we started going out, and all of a sudden we're in a serious relationship. That's the way it happens."

Ford has always been a public figure, but since he got together with another star, the publicity has multiplied, a

"I like to believe that audiences trust me . . . They trust the man behind the characters I play."

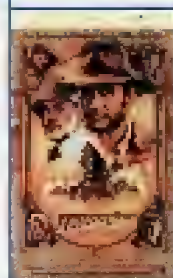


reality he has learned to live with. "You have to learn to ignore it and do the things that interest you, regardless. And when it comes to the point where you can't go to the zoo anymore, you'll learn to avoid that. Because there are places where you're basically trapped."

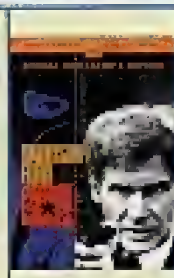
Whipping It Up Again

At 61 years old, Ford hasn't lost any of his star power. "I like to believe that audiences trust me" is his analysis of his appeal. "They trust the man behind the characters I play." Years ago he said in another interview that viewers can conclude a lot about him by watching his movies. "Even though each character has certain unique features, I'm not hiding my true self. There's a good part of me in every character I play, and you can learn more about me that way than by my answering a lot of personal questions, where I'm inclined to be evasive."

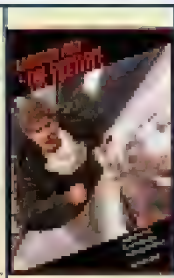
Unlike his colleagues Robert Redford and Mel Gibson, Ford has no interest in directing. "It takes me five months on a film,"



1960 *Untouchables*
and the *Law
Cavalcade*
The Jones boys
search for the
Holy Grail and
find it.



1982 *Patriot Games*
CIA Agent Jack
Ryan prevents an
attack on a
member of the
royal family while
making his own
family a target
for terrorists.



1993 *The Firm*
Dr. Richard Kimble
needs to save his
own neck before
solving his wife's
murder.



1997 *Air Force One*
President Andrew
Ryan fights
a South American
drug cartel. Holy
Smokes!





he says. "It takes the director a year and a half. It's too hard, takes too long, and doesn't pay very well."

After years of success as straightforward heroes like the President of the United States in *Air Force One* or CIA agent Jack Ryan in *Clear and Present Danger*, these parts now seem a bit one-dimensional to him. "I have never been interested in playing a character that didn't have a degree of complication. I've always tried to bring a level of depth to my characters, even when they were meant to be, finally, heroic. I think that's much more interesting than playing the sort of unvarnished hero."

These days, Ford finds most pleasure in comedies. "I love it," he says. "It's where I know the most, feel the most useful, feel the most at home. It's more fun now than it ever was because you feel more experienced every time, more equipped."

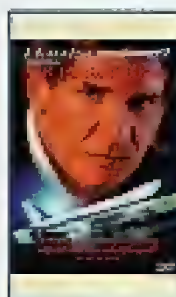
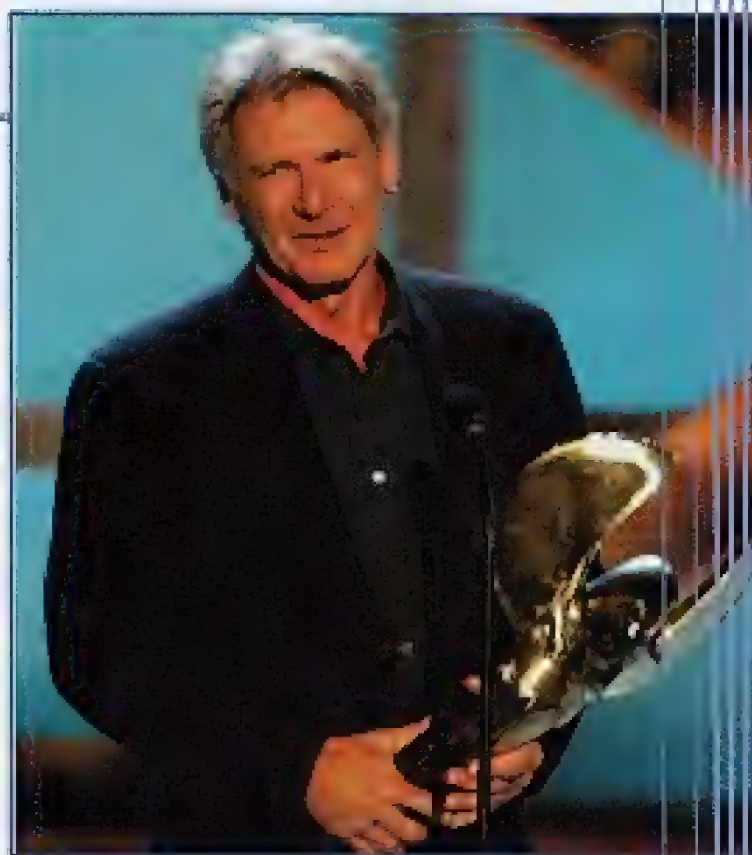
The one character he certainly is identified with most often is Indiana Jones, and the actor can't wait to put on the fedora again. "It's important to show that he's aged, he's suffered some wear and tear over the years. That's going to make this character that much more interesting. I can't wait to address issues like whether his strength is based on his youth or on other aspects of human nature, like his wisdom, his toughness, his resourcefulness, his integrity. In creating Indy, we gave him a certain history and identity, and I think it will be extremely fascinating to expand on that. It's something that I think the public would enjoy watching."

To him, the question of what is appropriate for Indy has nothing to do with chronological age but with his ability to leap into action. "I'm still quite fit enough to fake it," he smiles. "Paul Newman races cars, even though he's in his seventies. I wouldn't want to pick a fight with a guy like Clint Eastwood, either."

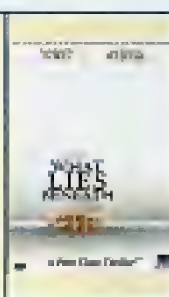
[Left] Ford with George Lucas at the American Film Institute, where Ford received a Life Achievement Award. [Right] Ford accepts the Taurus World Spunk Award, a fitting tribute to the man who fought Nazis and... well, ran away from stormtroopers

You have to consider what an audience is inclined to believe and support."

Harrison Ford has a long and successful career behind him and he feels secure in what he's done up until this point. "However," he adds, "there are a lot of areas I would like to explore. I'm hopeful that I can push the limits of what audiences expect from me without alienating them. Movies like *What Lies Beneath*, in which I play a villain, or *Random Hearts* presented different opportunities for me, and the variety keeps me interested in the work. I've reached a point where it's important for me to expand my repertoire and I would like to be able to take audiences along with me. It's a challenge."



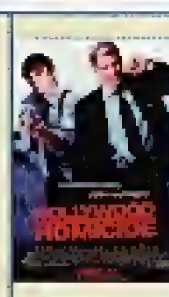
2002 *Air Force One*
President James Marshall fights Russian terrorists on his own airplane.



2002 *What Lies Beneath*
Ford's only turn as a genuine scumbag: Dr. Norman Spencer, who cheats on his wife with a college student played by a supermodel.



2002 *K-11*
Submarine captain Alexei Vostrikov must prevent a nuclear disaster by sacrificing his crew.



2003 *Random Hearts*
Police captain Joe Gavilan moonlights as a real estate agent but still manages to save the rap community from a killer.





REPUBLIC HOLONET NEWS

SENATE RATIFIES "REFLEX AMENDMENT"



SENATE ROTUNDA, CORUSCANT—This morning the Senate ratified Emergency Amendment 121b, giving Supreme Chancellor Palpatine unprecedented control in maneuvering military assets across areas of overlapping jurisdiction. Dubbed the "reflex amendment" by supporters and detractors alike, the main focus of the constitutional change sees the direct responsibility of defense activity move from sector and planetary governments to Coruscant.

The term "reflex amendment" stems from proponents describing its effect as an increase in the Republic's reflexes when dealing with Confederacy attacks. Critics of the amendment have turned the phrase to describe their disgust with the policy.

"I am quite disappointed by the short-sightedness of the Senate," said Senator Mon Mothma (Chandriga). "I was hopeful that a more even-tempered solution could be found, one favoring equal cooperation between home defense forces and the Army of the Republic."

The Chandriga Defense Fleet has moved from the stewardship of Admiral Hiram Drayson to Kohl Seerdon, an official appointed by Palpatine's military council. Drayson will continue to serve in advisory capacity, and Mothma's role has been reduced considerably for the duration of the emergency. This pattern is expected to continue in loyalist sectors throughout the Republic.

"The Separatists have taken advantage of our lethargic reaction time long enough," said Senator Ask Aak (Malastare). "We will no longer be yoked by bureaucracies that have been fattened by the larder of the Trade Federation and other traitors."

Loyalist supporters point to the effective management of the Seswenna sector campaigns, which saw individual planetary military fronts unified into "priority theaters" commanded from a central authority on Eriadu.

This is the fifth wartime constitution amendment enacted by Palpatine, the last one being Statute 312b, which gave Core and Inner Rim worlds votes greater weight than outlier worlds.

WOOKIEES REFUSE SEPARATIST ENTREATIES

RWOOKRRORRO, KASHYYYK—In a speech today Senator Yarus of Kashyyyk formally refused an offer from the Confederacy of Independent Systems to secede, though he tempered any proclamations of Republic loyalty with words of independence.

"The paths of this war are still branching, and we will do what is best for the Wookiee people," said Yarus, via translator droid. "We will protect our forests' homes from thieves who try to claim them, but we will not leave the trees to die elsewhere for distant rulers."

Relations between Coruscant and Kashyyyk have been strained over rampant slavery in territories neighboring the Wookiee world. These tensions reached their height just prior to the outbreak of the Clone Wars, when the Trandoshans, longstanding Wookiee enemies, nearly achieved Senate representation.

A series of diplomatic dialogues spearheaded by the Jedi Council helped keep the world within the Republic, but the Wookiee government still refuses the placement of Republic military assets on Kashyyyk. This decision comes despite conflicts on the moon of Alaris Prime, which the central Wookiee government views as a colonial affair.

Jedi Knight Kai Justiss has been permanently assigned to Kashyyyk, continuing the diplomatic duties where Jedi Master Yoda left off. "The Wookiee loyalty is legendary," said Justiss. "When it most matters, I am sure the Republic can count on their allegiance."



CIS SHADOWFEED

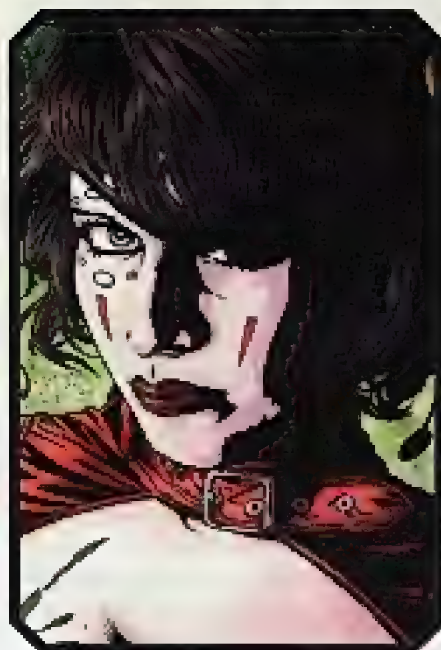
S H E E D I N G L I G H T O N T H E I R L I E S

Neimoidians Double Conscription Rate

KOTO-SI, NEIMOIDIA – In response to a decree issued from the Office of the General of the Separatist Army, the Neimoidian Home Defense Legions have doubled conscription service, and called up all reservists for active protection of Neimoidia and the colonial purse-worlds of Deko Neimoidia, Koru Neimoidia and Cata Neimoidia.

The General has focused the bulk of the droid armies provided by the Techno Union to front-line campaigns throughout the Mid and Outer Rim. However, recent incursions into Neimoidian space by Republic scouting missions have prompted the increase in home-world security.

"The filthy lies of the enemy describe us as cowards," said Viceroy Nute Gunray in a general address to his people. "We will show our ferocity as they suffer. Our heartless droids are unstoppable. Imagine how tenacious we are when guarding our soil and riches."



Jedi Watchgroup on the HoloNet

OUTER-RIM NODE – The People's Inquest, a grassroots Jedi watchgroup, has resumed broadcasting a regular HoloNet signal, despite repeated cease and desist orders from the Republic HoloCommunications Commission.

Last month, leader Thrynka Padaunete began transmitting from a public infocache in a Coruscant-based HoloNet node. Her weekly newsnet garnered tens of millions of subscribers before being shut down by the HCC over "inadequate licenses" and "signal purity violations."

"The truth will not be silenced," she announced in her newly resurrected infocache, based from an undisclosed HoloNet node in the Outer Rim. "Our unblinking look at the unsavory actions of the Jedi Order during this horrific war instigated by the Republic will continue."

The watchgroup has taken its efforts to the HoloNet after policy decisions affecting protests on Coruscant have — according to Padaunete — "made public expression of unpopular opinion dangerous." Rallies outside the Senate Rotunda have been banned on the grounds of increased security, and

many Inquest members have been jailed following the dispersal of the last protest.

"Our new galaxy-wide presence has a farther reach than our largest protest rally ever did," explained Padaunete in a holographic statement. "Already, we have been receiving feedback from worlds not even in the Republic, with more tales of atrocious abuse carried out in the name of the Chancellor and the Jedi Council." Padaunete's latest update includes eyewitness testimony from worlds as scattered as Atrakus, Teyr, Haruun Kal, and Berchest.

"The amount of power the Jedi have garnered since the start of this conflict is nothing short of terrifying," said Padaunete. "Knowing that the Separatists are led from one of their ranks, I am convinced that the Republic is just a meaningless backdrop in their internal war for power."

To see the infocache set transceivers to HS1204.8826.33931.2.dh. As always CIS Shadowfeed cautions users to tap into illegal feeds at their own risk.

FURTHER READING

The heated battles on Brentaal IV are recounted in *Star Wars: Clone Wars Volume 2: Victory and Sacrifice*, a trade paperback collection of Clone Wars comics from Dark Horse.

The Star Wars Galaxies Gazetteer

by Haden Blackman

Your Guide to What's Happening in a Galaxy Not So Far Away

Star Wars Galaxies has taken on a life of its own since its successful launch on June 26, 2003. In just a few short weeks, the massively multi-player online game has amassed a player base over 200,000 strong, making it one of the most active online communities ever created. Right now, thousands of players are adventuring together, making stuff for one another and socializing on Corellia, Tatooine, Naboo, and seven other Star Wars worlds.

Because Star Wars Galaxies is an online game with its own thriving community, the players drive nearly all of the social interactions. The designers provide venues and are preparing to host live events, but the players themselves have already taken an active role in planning in-game gatherings. This issue, we bring you a sampling of the diverse activities orchestrated by the ingenious Star Wars Galaxies community. You can read more about player-driven in-game events at www.starwarsgalaxies.com.

Recruitment Drives. All of the game's twenty active servers already boast large contingents of Rebel and Imperial players. To strengthen these groups, many industrious players have set up recruitment drives, strategy meetings, and other events. On the Briia server, Rebels have met in Anchorhead to elect leaders and start planning raids on Imperial outposts. With a large enough group, they've even been able to attack stormtrooper squads near the city of

Bestine. Meanwhile, on the Eclipse server, the INN (a player-generated acronym that stands for "Imperial News Network") has reported another successful raid on Rebel scum in Anchorhead. As with many such raids, this Anchorhead battle was led in part by a Player Association—a group of likeminded players who have banded together.

Avian Nest Casino's Creature Battle Tournament. On the Chilastra server, the player-created Avian Nest Casino marked its

deed to a small house. As with many social gatherings, entertainers were on hand to perform for the audiences, while artisans sold their goods to the burgeoning crowd.

Battle of the Bands! Star Wars Galaxies includes an "Entertainer" profession that allows players to take on the roles of musicians and dancers. Such players are usually the most socially active members of the community, and groups of entertainers can be found in most cantinas, hotels, and theaters

throughout the game. To bring together the galaxy's most talented Entertainers, an enterprising businessman on the Starsider server sent out a call to all musicians and dancers for a "Battle of the Bands." Dozens of entertainers collected just south of Theed on Naboo, where they took turns performing for a large audience while Artisans (the game's "builders," who craft items for other players) hawked clothing and launched fireworks. The event's organizer, an Artisan himself, was wise enough to stage the Battle of Bands outside his large



grand opening by holding its first "Creature Battle Tournament." The Creature Handler, one of over 30 professions in Star Wars Galaxies, has the ability to tame and train animals to fight. The Avian Nest Casino offered creature handlers the chance to pit their beasts against one another in a four-round, single-elimination tournament, complete with cash rewards. The grand prize included the

shop; dozens of visitors to the event also stopped by the shop to purchase weapons and other gear.

Dance Schools. For those who wish to excel as Entertainers, the game's many socializers are already setting up instruction programs. On the Starsider server, Adari Nomi (Master Dancer, Master Entertainer) has opened the doors to the Academy of Dance



and Music, located near Keren on Naboo. The Academy will provide training to entertainers from across the galaxy, using the game's innovative "apprenticeship" system, which allows players to learn new skills from one another. Aside from training facilities, the Academy offers rooms for rehearsal, crafting stations for Entertainer goods, and a vendor who supplies clothing, food, and drinks. Adani plans to host public performances, and players should be able to hire Academy alumni for events or adventuring groups.

Parties Aplenty. Just a simple post to the message boards is enough to gather a large number of players interested in meeting other players, lighting off fireworks, or just hanging out. On the Eclipse server, the "Techno Union" player association attracted partygoers by hiring another Player Association, Nabooty Entertainment, which is composed entirely of entertainers. The party was held midway between the cities of Moenia and Dee'ja Peak on Naboo, and offered an open-air market for peddlers, food, and beverage sales, and an area for player-versus-player duels.

PvP Tournaments. As of this writing, many servers are beginning to host Player-Versus-Player tournaments. On the Intrepid server, RekkoCorp Power and Associates PA is planning the "Tournament of Champions," set to debut near Coronet on Corellia. The tournament will allow up to sixteen combatants to battle one another with a random assortment of weapons. RekkoCorp is even going so far as to hire Weaponsmiths to manufacture arms for the battles, Medics to heal the wounded entrants, and Tailors to produce color-coded uniforms. The promised reward of 50,000 credits should ensure a healthy turnout for this event.

Beauty Pageants. They may not be part of the Galactic Civil War, but *Star Wars Galaxies* has already seen its share of beauty pageants as well. Because the game allows players to create incredibly detailed and customized characters, and gives players access to literally thousands of different outfits and

Entrants will be drawn from around the galaxy, but all must be nominated by other players.

Economic Summit. On the Naritus server, Bert Thendor (Artisan, Droid Engineer hopeful, and future Imperial politician) is calling together the server's leaders to a summit to discuss the in-game economy. The doors are open to anyone with an interest in crafting items, including Weaponsmiths, Architects, Tailors, and even Scouts. Thendor's concerns revolve around the cost of necessary goods—like medicines and weapons—for new players. It is his hope that the economic leaders on the server can consolidate a price list, establish fair but competitive rules for doing business, and find ways to help new players gain a foothold in the various crafting professions. Yet again, this player-driven event is set for Dee'ja Peak, a small city on Naboo. He has even established an impressive series of discussions for each of the major Artisan branches. Lastly, to promote a healthy dialogue, Thendor has respectfully asked that all Imperials and Rebels call a truce during the meeting.

Hunting Parties. Every day, numerous groups across all the servers organize to hunt specific targets, ranging from healthy, resource-rich kaadu on Naboo to dangerous rancors on Dathomir. In many cases, these hunting expeditions are advertised beforehand on the game's official forums. Players are also conducting routine "raids" of key locations, like Fort Tusken.



other "wearables," each player character appears truly unique. On the Lowca server, a player calling herself "Amethyst Night" (The Original Dancing Chic with a Stick) has announced her plans for the "First Annual Ladies of Lowca Pageant," to be held at the guildhall of Dee'ja Peak. The pageant plans to include a talent show, ballroom gown modeling, and even an interview round.

Return next issue when *Star Wars Insider* covers yet more of the player-driven events and gives you a detailed report on the game's next set of features: player cities, player-owned mounts, and player-operated vehicles! 🗡️

Anakin's Hovel Home of "The Maker"

by Chris Trevas



George Lucas' return to Tatooine began at Stage D of Leavesden Studios when he toured the set of Anakin's home. This was the first full-size set completed for the film, and the first shown to Lucas upon his arrival in England. The exterior of the structure was entirely scaffolding and two-by-fours, but Lucas said, after crossing the threshold of the finished doorway, it felt like "home sweet home." In keeping with the design aesthetics of the original desert homestead seen in *A New Hope*, the hovel featured '60s-style furniture and an overall soft look with glimpses of technology showing. Several pieces from scrap yards and off-the-shelf products were used to dress the home's interior. Holstered inside a foot massager on the kitchen wall are two hand-vacuums; mounted next to those is a deep-fat fryer; and mainframe computer parts form wall panels in Anakin's room. On first inspection, the bedroom seemed overwhelmed with hardware. With his hobbies of building Podracers and droids, the boy's bedroom had too much of a workshop feel. Lucas recommended that the room be toned down to look more like a typical nine-year-old's bedroom, but with a *Star Wars* slant. Of course, not every kid has his own droid, even one that is only partially built.

Protocol droid C-3PO's Episode I incarnation was conceived as a "man of wires." Stripped of his outer shell, the earlier man-in-the-golden-suit approach was not

an option this time. The ILM model shop brought Threepio to life as a full-size rod puppet. Chief Modelmaker Michael Lynch operated the droid in a manner similar to a form of Japanese puppet theater called *bunraku* . Fourteen rods linked a suit worn by the operator to key points on the puppet just in front of him. Since a single person would support the full weight of the droid, it was kept to less than 100 pounds. Laser-cut Plexiglas and nylon ball-and-socket joints were used to simulate the metallic skeleton, and facial panels were created from vacuformed plastic. The entire body was filled with lightweight tubing and hoses, and holes were drilled wherever possible to lessen the operator's burden. The puppeteer was dressed in black and occasionally other colors, and ILM digitally removed him in post-production.

Through the front door of Anakin's home is a view across the street, but at Leavesden a full slave quarters complex didn't exist. A large backdrop painting and sand-covered floor gave the impression of the outdoors whenever the characters were near the entrance. From the doorway and combined with powerful studio lights, the illusion of a real location is convincing. After this first phase of filming was completed at Leavesden, the crew moved on to capture exterior scenes of the hovel and surrounding area on location in Tunisia. ☺

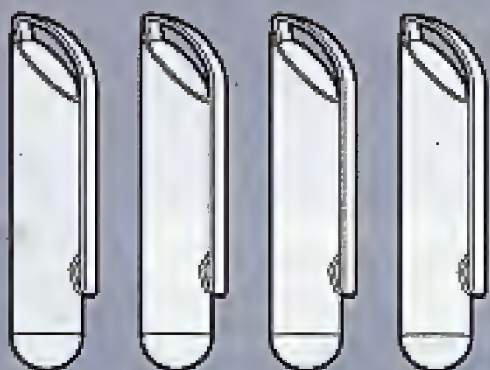
Painted art on the ceiling is reminiscent of the designs in the Lars homestead dining area.

To keep her true identity secret and blend in with the locals, Padmé wears what the production referred to as a peasant's dress.

Exteriors of the slave dwellings were based on fortified granaries called *ksours* (plural of *ksar*). For filming, the earth and stone structures were dressed with new doors and technological details. The front of Anakin's hovel was a *ksar* located in Medenine, Tunisia.

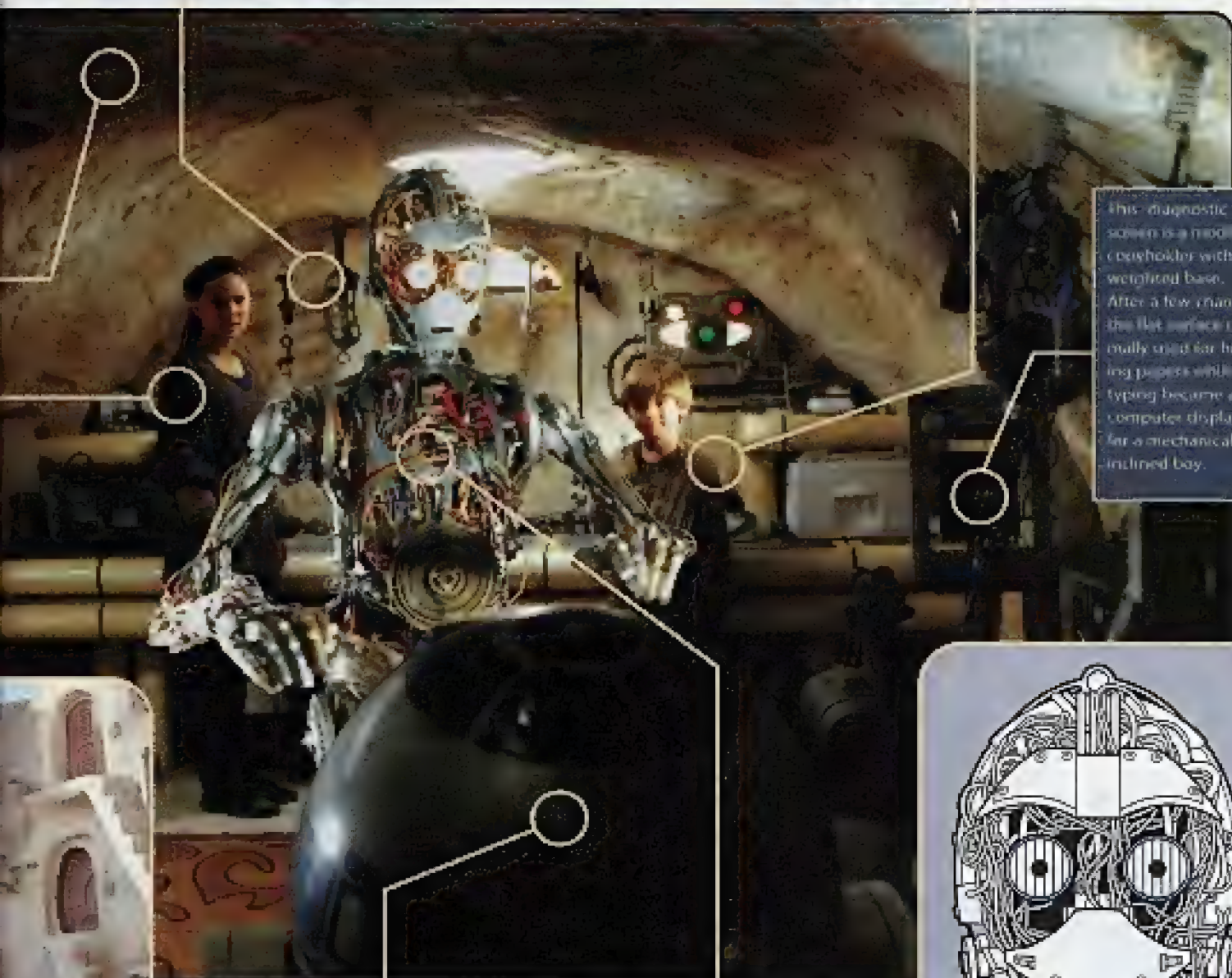


Hanging around the room are various ball-catching accessories. This one is a scoop from a scoop ball game. Track ball racquets can also be seen.



In a scene cut from the final film Qui-Gon offers Shmi Skywalker from far left to feed her unexpected guests. The hot food pellet capsules were made from pen caps spray-painted silver and gold.

Anakin's simple costume is very similar to Luke's farm clothes.

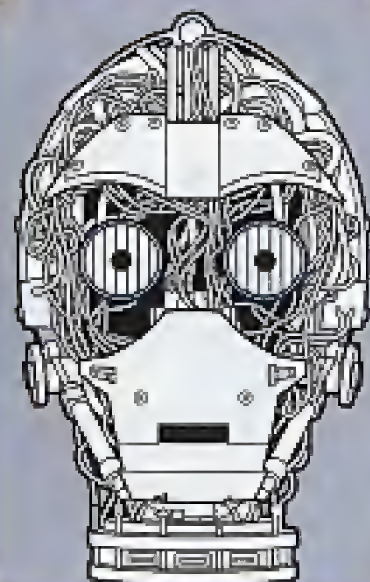


This diagnostic screen is a modified cashholder with weighted base. After a few changes the flat surface (usually used for holding papers while typing) became a computer display for a mechanically inclined boy.

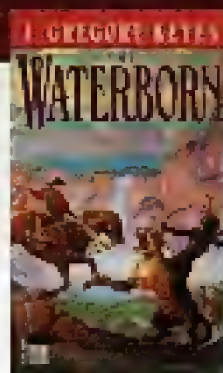


C-3PO had some problems navigating through the hovel. His front wheel had a tendency to get caught on the door thresholds.

Lucas wanted to show C-3PO's inner workings so rotating pieces were built into the chest along with blinking lights. Threepio's head featured a spinning brain behind his glowing eyes.



Keyes' Waterborn novels are set in a fantasy world reminiscent of Asian cultures. His Age of Unreason novels take place in a Europe and America where magic rules.



A Race to The Finish

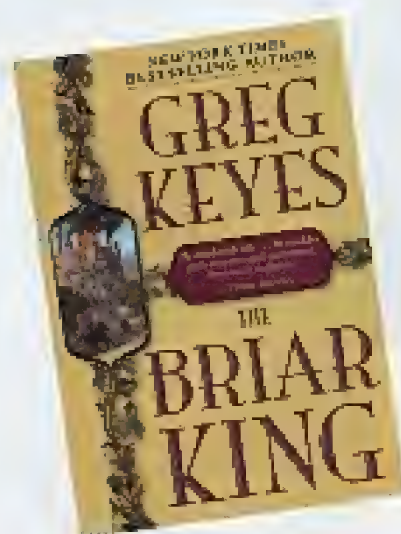
by Jason Fry

Greg Keyes Is Back With Another Ripping Yarn

» Greg Keyes can be a hard author to pin down.

There's the Chosen of the Changeling books, pairing a barbarian hero raised in an animist faith with a princess from a city-state devoted to worship of The River. There's the Age of Unreason quartet, starring Benjamin Franklin, Isaac Newton, Blackbeard, and others in an 18th Century in which Newton discovered not physics, but alchemy. And there's the Kingdoms of Throne and Bone, a high-fantasy series set in a world drawn from children's stories and tales of Faerie.

What connects the author of such disparate creations? Perhaps it's that for all the careful construction and convincing detail, all Keyes' books are what have been known since time immemorial as ripping yarns—stories that keep you up until all hours reading one more chapter.



"No matter what I'm writing, I think there are a lot of similarities in the way I do things," Keyes says. "I like action, I like to move the plot along—I don't linger. And Star Wars is no different."

The latest ripping yarn from Keyes is *Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: The Final Prophecy* (Del Rey, \$7.50), the 18th volume in the series set to conclude in November with James Luceno's *The Unifying Force*.

"It's always gratifying to see characters that you've created or worked with grow in a series."

In *The Final Prophecy*, three Yuuzhan Vong heretics—the Shaper Nen Yim, the priest Hanar, and the prophet Yu'shkaa—join Corran Horn and Tahiri in search of Zonama Sekot, the living planet that's somehow bound up with the Yuuzhan Vong's past and, perhaps, with their future. Meanwhile, Wedge Antilles leads the combined forces of the New Republic and the Empire against the Yuuzhan Vong at Bilbringi, only to find

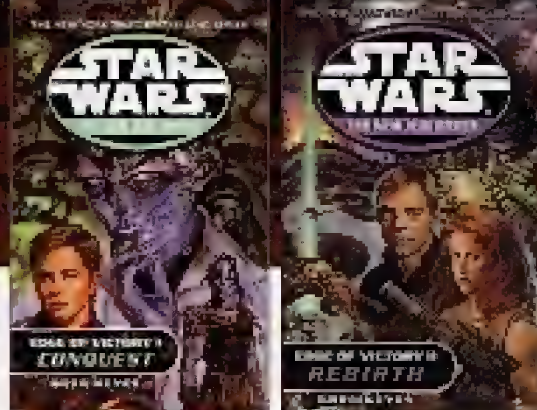
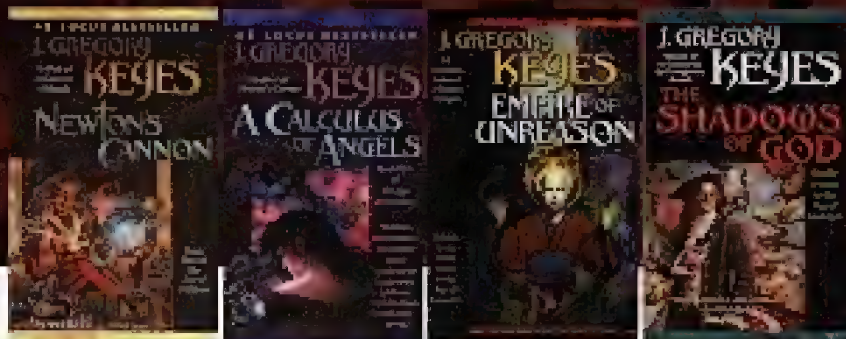


As the penultimate chapter of the New Jedi Order saga, *The Final Prophecy* sets the stage for *The Unifying Force*.

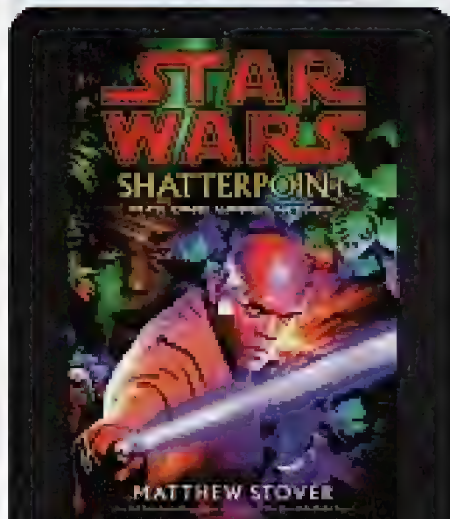
communications cut off and the fleet endangered. Can one beat-up Corellian freighter piloted by one beat-up Corellian prevent disaster?

New Jedi Order fans are likely holding their breath at that synopsis, since they know the prophet Yu'shkaa is really the treacherous Yuuzhan Vong executor Nam Anor, who will stop at nothing to regain his prominence. Betrayal, not surprisingly, is a key theme of *The Final Prophecy*, with consequences that are potentially dire not just for some beloved characters, but for the galaxy itself.

But *The Final Prophecy* isn't just sabers and starships. Keyes' pairing of Nen Yim and Tahiri picks up a story he began in his ear-



Keyes' Edge of Victory novels included Anakin's creation of a purple lightsaber (see your heart out, Mace Windu) and the birth of Ben Skywalker.



Life After the New Jedi Order

The Clone Wars books kicked off with the publication of Matthew Stover's *Shatterpoint* in June; 2004 will see five more Clone Wars novels from Del Rey. Like *Shatterpoint*, all are tales of the Jedi set against the backdrop of the Clone Wars, and not simply episodes in that conflict. Two handovers are planned: June's *The Ghosts of Deception*, by Steven N. Barnes, and November's *Jedi Trial*, by David Sherman and Dan Cragg. Then there are two paperbacks: July's *Medstar I: Battle Surgeons* and October's *Medstar II: Healer*, both by Steve Perry and Michael Reaves. (Those names may be familiar: Perry wrote 1996's *Shadows of the Empire*, and Reaves penned 2001's *Darth Maul: Shadow Hunter*.)

February 2004 sees the return of Timothy Zahn, whose *Survivor's Quest* set three years before the New Jedi Order began. (He'll also tell the prequel-era tale of the doomed Outbound Flight Project in late 2005.) Troy Denning will return in 2005 with a paperback trilogy set after the New Jedi Order. And circle April 2005, which should bring the novelization of Episode III.

The next is "difficult to see," as Yoda might say: Del Rey's Star Wars license is up for renewal at the end of 2005. Asked about her personal wish list, Del Rey's Shelly Shapiro says she'd like to know more about what happens after the New Jedi Order—and some details about the rise of the Jedi and how they became who they are.

"I like all of it," she says. "I think there's so much that's rich in the Star Wars universe."

lier New Jedi Order books, 2001's *Edge of Victory I—Conquest* and *Edge of Victory II—Rebirth*, the seventh and eighth in the series. (Keyes also penned *Emissary of the Void*, a six-part New Jedi Order serial that began in *Star Wars Gamer* and concluded here in *Insider*.) The *Edge of Victory* books introduced the Shapers and told of Tahiri's captivity and transformation into a strange being at once Jedi and Yuuzhan Vong. Since Nen Yim was one of Tahiri's captors, they have unfinished business, to say the least. But they also share a deeper connection—a startling secret of which neither is aware.

Keyes says he was pleased to revisit the two.

"It's always gratifying to see characters that you've created or worked with grow in a series," he says. "With Nen Yim I was curious to see what the authors after me were going to do with her. . . . She was entirely my own invention, and I actually like her a good deal, so I enjoyed writing about her."

The same was true of Tahiri, developed from a character first seen in the Junior Jedi Knights books for young readers. But while Keyes had a fairly free hand with Nen Yim, Tahiri proved more difficult. She played a major role in Sean Williams' and Shane Dix's *Force Heretic* trilogy, which preceded *The Final Prophecy*. That trilogy wasn't complete by the time Keyes got to work, meaning that he had to make some guesses about how Tahiri would develop and then backtrack to make sure everything fit together. (Temporal trivia buffs take note: Keyes' book was actually the last New Jedi Order manuscript turned in—Keyes says he got the manuscript of *The Unifying Force* about halfway through writing of his own book.)

One of the highlights of *The Final Prophecy* comes on the journey to Zonama Sekor, as Tahiri and Nen Yim argue about how to approach the universe, contrasting Nen Yim's rigid method of scientific inquiry with Tahiri's reliance on faith and wonder. It's one of the oldest arguments in human-

ity but one that Keyes gives a couple of interesting, unexpected twists once the characters reach the planet of their desires. It's also an argument that will resonate with fans of Keyes' other tales—most notably with readers of *The Age of Unreason*.

"That probably came from some of my own work—I was trying to set up some sort of dichotomy between the two," Keyes says.

With *The Final Prophecy* complete, Keyes is turning to the next installment of his *Kingdoms of Throne and Bone* quarter, to be titled *The Chamel Prince*. It'll be Keyes' 14th novel—an impressive track record, and one that holds a lesson for young authors.

The Waterborn, Keyes' first published work, appeared in 1996—but the Mississippi-born author had written several novels previously—including *Ash-Faced Moon*, *Skeleton Dance*, and *Footsteps in the Sky*. Keyes had an agent who shopped those books to publishers, with some attracting considerable interest, but none was ever sold. Many less-determined authors would have quit right there, but not Keyes. He simply focused on the next book taking shape in his mind, until *The Waterborn* finally made him a published author.

"I thought of each book I wrote as part of a learning process," he says, noting that a lot of writers trying to break in spend years and years rewriting the same book, when many of them would be better served by continuing on to their next idea.

"Every book I wrote was for me a step toward the one that would get published—I don't think any of them was a waste of time," says Keyes. "I always advise persistence." ☐

Forget What You Know

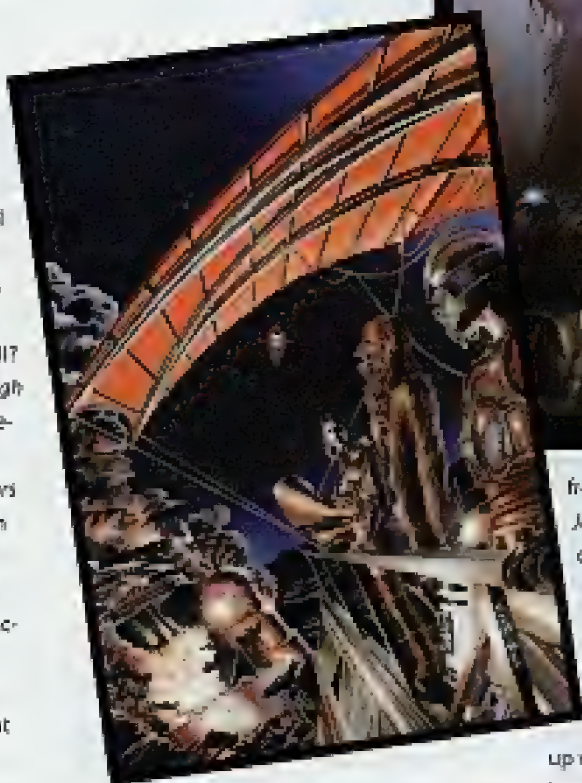
by Daniel Wallace

See a headless Threepio and a marked lack of Ewoks in *Infinites: Return of the Jedi*

» **What if?** That's the intriguing question asked in the genre known as alternate history. In an alt-hist tale, events in the fictional world are identical to those in our own until a single point of divergence triggers a chain reaction. The resulting "parallel universe"—shockingly strange yet eerily familiar—is what gives the genre its kick. In alternate history, it's all about the premise. What if Hitler had triumphed in World War II? (Check out Philip K. Dick's *The Man in the High Castle*.) What if Lincoln's armies failed to preserve the Union in the Civil War? (Try Harry Turtledove's *The Guns of the South*.) *Star Wars* has used the comics medium to put its own spin on the genre twice before. *Infinites: A New Hope* asked, "what if the torpedo that Luke Skywalker fired at the Death Star's reactor shaft had been a dud?" Its successor, *Infinites: The Empire Strikes Back*, was even grimmer: "what if Luke had died during that nighttime Hoth blizzard?"

Infinites: Return of the Jedi rounds out the classic trilogy and raises a what-if question of its own. "The divergence takes place right at the beginning of the film in Jabba's palace," explains writer Adam Gallardo. "There's a moment between Jabba and Leia [disguised as Boushh] where Jabba strikes See-Threepio because he's unhappy with his translations. In the film, Threepio is just knocked around a bit, but in *Infinites*, he falls, and his head pops off and there's no one to translate between Jabba and Leia. Things break down pretty quickly from there."

When Boba Fett flees Tatooine with Han's still-frozen body, the heroes must follow the bounty hunter into territory unfamiliar to the



freelance writer for *Infinites: Return of the Jedi*. "At the time I was in the Internet department, and one of my jobs was to answer all outside email. We used to get a ton of email all asking the same thing: 'Where's the next *Infinites*?' [Dark Horse's] Randy Stradley wanted to do *Infinites: Return of the Jedi*, but no one had come up with a good story with a divergence point happening early enough in the film to give them room to play with things. I went home and thought about it and the next day pitched an idea at Randy." This isn't Gallardo's first foray into the *Star Wars* milieu—he's written two short stories in *Star Wars Tales* ("The Lesson" in issue #14 and "All for You" in issue #17). Look for his original, creator-owned series *100 Girls* on the Dark Horse website.

"I am a *Star Wars* fan," says Gallardo. "I don't think the story would have come to me so quickly if I weren't. As a fan I've spent countless hours having conversations that start with, 'What if...?' Probably all *Star Wars* fans have had that same conversation." Gallardo says he'd love to write *Infinites* tales based on the

movie viewer. Nevertheless, the story still hits several familiar beats. "It seems to me that there's a certain inevitability to this chapter of the story," says Gallardo. "No matter what Luke and Leia and the others are doing, the Rebels are still going to attack the Death Star, Yoda's still going to die... a number of things that happen in the film happen in *Infinites*, but they happen differently. I think that we came up with a great twist ending. I think the fans will be happy with it."

Gallardo works for Dark Horse Comics as Product Development Manager ("We're the department that makes all the cool toys and collectibles," he says), but he was hired as a

Star Wars prequels should such a project ever come to light. Nor does he think the concept is mined out. "What I'd [love to] see is a series of one-shot *Infinities* stories kind of like the old Marvel Comics *What If...* series."

Artist Ryan Benjamin is familiar to Star Wars comics fans from his work on the inaugural "Betrayal" story arc in *Star Wars Empire*. In a diverse comics career he has illustrated everything from *Ghost* to *X-Men*. Benjamin says Chewbacca was his favorite character to illustrate for *Infinities: Return of the Jedi*. "About three years ago, Randy Stradley called me to work on Episode I," he says. "I turned it down due to bad advice from a friend of mine. Later I kicked myself and said I was never going to do that again." When asked if the "parallel universe" angle of the project forced him to come up with new character interpretations, he

jokes, "No—it means if I make a mistake it doesn't matter, 'cause it's an alternate story!"

For his part, Gallardo is happy to be working with an artist of Benjamin's skill. "I saw the first few pages of Ryan's art and was blown away," he says. "I've tried to tailor my scripts to Ryan's strengths. It's really beautiful."

While Gallardo and Benjamin enjoyed messing around with the premise of *Return of the Jedi*, both have high praise for the original version. "Remember that conversation in *Clerks*?" says Gallardo. "Where they argue which is a better film, *Empire* or *Jedi*? I have that conversation in my head all the time. I think my only complaint about *Jedi* is the Ewoks—they were just too cute and cuddly for my taste. That fact may be why the tag line for this *Infinities* series is, 'Now with 99% fewer Ewoks!' I really can't believe Lucasfilm let us use that." 🙄



Welcome to the Jungle

Sith savagery roars forth in *Star Wars Empire* #15. Set immediately following the destruction of the first Death Star, this single-issue story by writer Paul Allen and illustrator Paul Trinnia tells what happened after Darth Vader leaped away from the battle in his damaged TIE fighter. Forced to crash-land on a wilderness world, the Dark Lord finds himself stripped of the Imperial lackeys who have done his bidding for so long. To survive against nature's most bloodthirsty predators, Vader must embrace the raw fury of the dark side. This brutal tale, featuring a cover by Francisco Ruiz Velasco, is on sale in November.



Certain Points of View

Star Wars has been pruned for its detailed, 5,000-year history (it even has its own in-universe history book, *The Essential Chronology*). But the *Infinities* experiment chucks continuity out the window to create Twilight Zone-ish night-horror-beans. If you didn't read the first two alternate-history tales on the Star Wars universe when they first appeared, both are now available in trade paperback form from Dark Horse Comics.

Star Wars Infinities: A New Hope, by Chris Warner, Drew Johnson, & Al Rio, goes off on a tangent when Luke Skywalker's faulty torpedoes fail to destroy the Death Star. Leia is captured by Imperial forces during the Rebels' hasty evacuation and taken to Coruscant, where Darth Vader reprograms her as a loyal servant of the Empire. Among the comic's highlights are an appearance by the newly renamed "Jedha Star" battle station and a shocking showdown between the Emperor and Yoda.

Star Wars Infinities: The Empire Strikes Back, by Dave Land and Davide Fabbri, postulates a Luke-less universe in which the young hero freezes to death on Hoth. Leia tries to face Vader in Luke's place, setting the stage for a familial conflict between father and daughter. Surprises abound, including Jabba's exotic new pets and the sad fate of Cloud City.

A Burning Question: To 'Ruin' a Collectible or Not?

By Steve Sansweet

Do You Koosh? Seeking Mara Jade and Other EU's

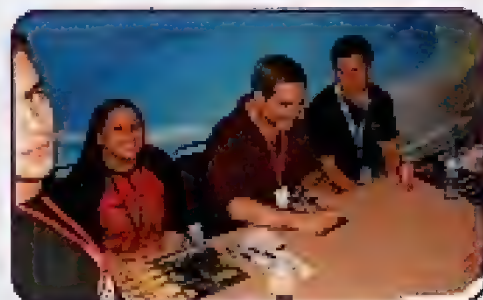
Ah, the summer fan convention season! It's hectic and exhausting—especially for those of us doing presentations at multiple cons—but also incredibly fulfilling. I'm like an energy vampire: I'm truly re-energized by the passion and enthusiasm of all of the *Star Wars* fans I meet, many of them now friends or at least familiar faces from years of past encounters. We are truly a community, and one still growing as we approach Episode III... and beyond.

As I write this, I'm off for EuroCon in Turku, Finland, and an entirely new set of experiences. The first two conventions of the summer were amazing enough. Comic-Con International in San Diego had the largest *Star Wars* presence ever, both on the exhibition floor (you couldn't miss those huge banners), the multiple presentations (including a jam-packed Thursday night *Star Wars* Fan Film Awards topped by the over-the-top live "Star Wars Trilogy in 30 Minutes"), and the enthusiasm of our fans, including scores of costumed members of the 501st Stormtrooper Legion and the San Diego *Star Wars* Society.

A weekend before, the Official *Star Wars* Fan Club of Mexico put on the first authorized collectors' convention ever, drawing 4,000 collectors from Mexico and the U.S. There were continuous panels of collectors and past toy makers and marketers from the U.S. and Mexico, dozens of dealers, and one of the same attractions as at San Diego: the Fan Club exclusive silver-painted Boba Fett figure. At both conventions, fans waited in line for hours, mostly patiently and with understanding, to get their precious booty.

As always, I was signing autographs at no charge at the Mexican Fan Club table when the first Boba Fett figure was thrust under my nose. "You want me to sign this?" I asked. It isn't the only time Mexican fans have asked me to sign something potentially valuable or rare. The first time was at a Mexico City show several years ago when someone asked me to sign a very rare Lily Ledy (Kenner's Mexican affiliate) action figure card from 1983. And it has happened since. Still, it takes some getting used to.

These Mexican fans want a memento of the event, not an item that they can put on eBay that night. Still, I didn't play Boba Fett or any other character in the *Star Wars* saga (although Jeremy Bulloch still reminds me of the time a Mexican newspaper photo caption



Bring Me the Head of Darth Vader

When I was a child, the only *Star Wars* memorabilia I got was a Darth Vader necklace from my father. There were three designs: An R2-D2 with movable legs, a C-3PO with movable arms and legs, and my favorite, the Vader head. They were cast in metal with the "© 1977 20th Century Fox" copyright on the back. I still have the Vader necklace, now in a glass dome. Why can't I find these in any collectors' magazines or books?

Guss R. Espolt
Clarkdale, AZ



Identified me as Fett and him as an Ewok). But I realize that the signature is sought as part of a sense of community, from one fan to another fan, and even though I take a deep breath, I do it gladly and with pride.

Can't find them? Maybe that's because you haven't looked for them in the best and most comprehensive book, Tomart's Price Guide to Worldwide *Star Wars* Collectibles. Admittedly out of date since the Second Edition was published in 1997, there is nothing that beats it for items that came out up to then (disclosure: I was the co-author). On pages 113 and 114 you can see

that one of the earliest licensees, Weingart Enterprises, made not only the three necklaces you're familiar with but also Chewbacca with movable parts, an X-wing fighter, and a stormtrooper head. The company produced a full line of metal jewelry including barettes, bracelets, key chains, rings, scatter pins/tie-tacks and stickpins. Because of their abundant production, many of these are still available from dealers

or on eBay for very reasonable prices, ranging from about \$5 to \$25 depending on the item.

Rare Jade

I recently received a Prince Xizor action figure that's in excellent shape. Are there any more figures from the books, such as Mara Jade or Grand Admiral Thrawn? I'm a huge Mara Jade fan. Can you tell me where I might look for the comic *Mara Jade: By the Emperor's Hand*?

**Kara Hedrick
O'Fallon, MO**

Over the years, Hasbro has made a number of "expanded universe" (EU) figures, especially in years without films. They largely have been drawn from *Star Wars* novels, comics, and even video games. In 1996 there was an entire separate line of *Shadows of the Empire* figures besides Xizor, including Dash Rendar, Chewbacca as Snoova the bounty hunter, and Luke and Leia costume variations. The following year, EU figures came on packs with 3-D action scenes that folded out on the back. They included Mara Jade, Thrawn, the Clone Emperor, Dark Trooper, Imperial Sentinel, Spacetrooper, Kyle Katarn, and Luke and Leia from *Dark Empire*.

As for the great six-issue *Mara Jade* comic series, your best bet is to pick up the trade paperback (\$15.95), which collects the entire 1999 set in one volume. It's still in print, and any local comic book shop should be able to order it for you from Dark Horse through their distributor. If not, go online to tfaw.com, Dark Horse's affiliated retail store, *Things From Another World*.

When 137 Years You Are . . .

I noticed on the Episode I *Star Wars* Koosh toys that they were labeled for ages 3–137. Do you have any information on this? Was this Jedi faux pas or what?

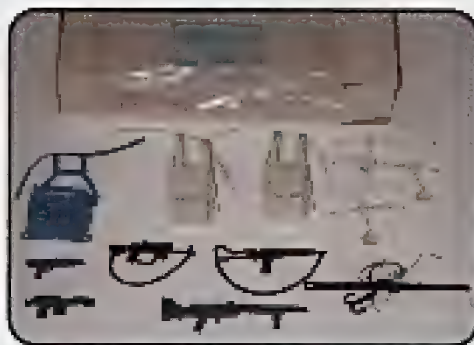
**Russell Smith
East St. Louis, IL**

It was an attempt at humor. An apparently poor attempt. Do you recall seeing any Koosh toys for Episode II?



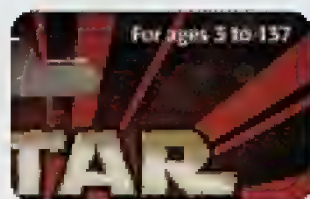
Survivor

I have been an avid *Star Wars* collector since the beginning. In my collection are some action figure accessories I haven't seen documented elsewhere: a Yoda backpack, so Luke can carry the Jedi Master; three gas masks for



Millennium Falcon repairs in toxic environments; and two Hoth backpacks. I think there was also a special gun, which I'm sure I have somewhere. Any thoughts on where I got these and what they're worth?

**Ron Laughton
Oak Park, CA**



What you have is most of a 1981 mail-away premium from Kenner—a *Star Wars* Action Figure Survival Kit, which required mailing in five proofs-of-purchase seals from action figure card backs. The kit contained 12 items: Luke's AT-AT grappling hook/belt; his Jedi training harness for Yoda; two Hoth backpacks; three "asteroid" gas masks; and five "assorted laser weapons," all of which look like blaster rifles to me. The tiny kit arrived in a plain white box to provide hours of . . . something. Today these go on eBay for very low prices, usually under \$10 complete.

eCaveat Emptor

I was wondering if you could help me with a question I have regarding a collector's greatest friend, and our wallets' worst enemy: eBay. More specifically about the products placed on it.

I know it's mostly up to us to figure out if a dealer on eBay is on the level or not, but I was wondering about posters in particular. Do you have any tips on how we can tell if posters are reprints or originals? I figure it's best to stay away from auctions that start off ridiculously low, but on the other hand, how can we be sure starting bids are a factor of authenticity? Is there something we can do after the poster is in our hands to verify it?

**Mike Marosy
Deale, MD**

Ah, eBay. What can I tell you? I just got my purple star (meaning 500 positive feedbacks) and have been buying there for years, getting burned only a few times. Still, that's a few times too many. As you said, it is always buyer beware, and the more information you have, the better. As I have said before, the one ENTIRE CATEGORY to avoid on eBay is *Star Wars* autographs, even those with lifetime money-back guarantees and so-called certificates of authenticity, which aren't worth the paper they're printed on. For every one autograph auction that's authentic, 999 are not. Be forewarned. (I guess the odds are even worse for autographed posters, because then you're facing the possibility that both items are bootleg).

As for posters, I've had great success on eBay. It's always possible to ask the seller questions to

determine when he or she got the poster, to test their knowledge, to make sure exactly what the poster is (first print or licensed commercial reprint), etc. The main Star Wars theatrical posters that have been bootlegged are the styles A, B, and C, and Revenge of the Jedi. There are several Internet sites which provide information, such as the one I mentioned in a previous issue, www.learnaboutmovieposters.com. For a good set of buying tips, check here: www.the-force.net/collecting/posters/buying.shtml.



These Are the Cards You're Looking For

I was looking through your Star Wars Scrapbook recently and noticed a set of trading cards that I had never heard of. The ones I am referring to are the Spanish "Droids" cards from 1987. Can you shed some more light on this set? How hard are they to find?

Barry Cain
Knoxville, TN

The late, lamented (to some) Droids and Ewoks cartoon series were even more popular in some European countries than in the United States. Spain, for some reason, took to the animated adventure particularly strongly and produced lots of unique merchandise, ranging

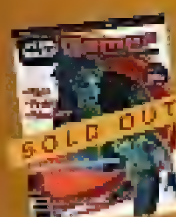
from plush figures, to costumes, to pop-up books, stickers, and cards. They are all now in the rare category, since, until fairly recently, collecting was even less of a phenomenon in Spain than it was in the U.S. The cards are actually copyrighted 1985 by the company Pacosa Dos, headquartered in Barcelona. There are 224 in the set, as far as I know, divided into 10 different "chapters" or episodes of the series, and a 12-card subset "gallery of characters" that comes at the beginning of the set. The cards measure about 1 1/2 by 2 1/2

inches, and each has a detailed explanation on the back. The quality of the reproduction is great. (By the way, if anyone has extras of cards 83, 107, 117 and 148, I can promise them a great home!)

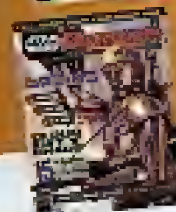
Scouting for Answers?

Please send your questions and comments about collectibles to: SCOUTING THE GALAXY, P.O. Box 2898, Palmdale, CA 91353-2898. Or you may email them to scouting@palmdale.com, making sure to also put SCOUTING in the subject line and YOUR HOMETOWN in the email along with your FULL NAME. Letters won't be answered without both; individual replies aren't possible because of time constraints, but we'll answer the questions of broadest interest in the column. Letters are edited for grammar, sense and length.

STAR WARS Gamer



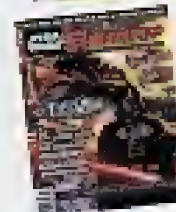
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Printers and Publishers' Showcase of Coruscant. Star Wars Runy Runy Game-Ten play rules.



ISSUE 43
Creative Star Wars Concept board game, Darth Vader stormtrooper.



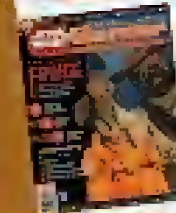
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Walk on the Wild Side! Members of the Galactic Republic, including Gungan Gungan racing system.



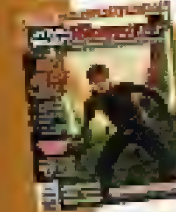
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The Dark Side! Huge fold-out galaxy power map, pyramid of military resources, secrets of the 501st.



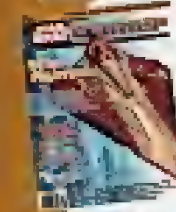
ISSUE 46
The Hunt is On! Droids, Zuckers, 4x4s! Issues reported for the Dark Horse Comic characters, "Waplog" by the "Jungle" adventure.



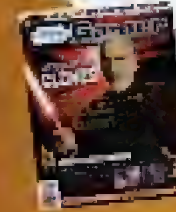
ISSUE 47
Living on the Edge! Huge Droids' Landing campaign, setting and adventure, stories of the bounty hunters, "Secrets of Vice-Boys" and Jay's Palpatone from Edible Cardstock!



ISSUE 48
The New Jedi Order! Spaceport Guide to the "Vigors" for the "Vigors" "Hill of the Hill" and "Tundra Information" adventures, "Belle on the Beach" by Greg Koyan.



ISSUE 49
Star Wars! Emotions by Greg Koyan! Section on the "Vigors" for the "Vigors" "Hill of the Hill" and "Tundra Information" adventures, "Belle on the Beach" by Greg Koyan.



ISSUE 50
Attack of the Cloned Gamers! Attack of the Cloned Gamers! Attack of the Cloned Gamers! Attack of the Cloned Gamers! Attack of the Cloned Gamers!

STAR WARS INSIDER



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Christopher Lee, Revision Fodder,
Episode II under the Microscope, Hologram



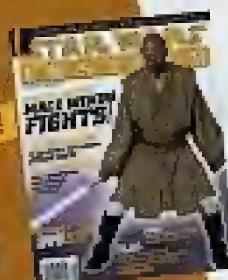
ISSUE #52
George Lucas, Episode II Making
Of, Behind the Scenes Star Wars in
the States



ISSUE #53
Ian McDiarmid, Making of Empire,
Trading Cards, New Canonical Guide
to Alien Species, Preview



ISSUE #54
Padmé Amidala, Ben Burtt, Peter
Haydon, Review of the Jedi 20th
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ISSUE #55
George Takei, Star Wars
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on TV, Lucas Show



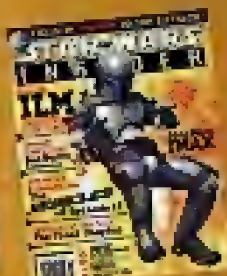
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Episode I: The Phantom Menace
(10), Kevin Smith, Behind the
Scenes, Anthony Daniels, Unseen Moments
of Episode I



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ISSUE #63
Attack of the Clones (DVD), Overview
of Episode II, Behind the Scenes,
Exclusives of the Jedi 20th Anniversary
and Empire



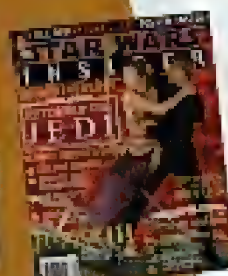
ISSUE #64
Episode IX: The Clone Wars, Overview
of Episode II, Overview of the Jedi 20th
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ISSUE #65
Episode X: The Clone Wars, Overview
of Episode II, Overview of the Jedi 20th
Anniversary, Behind the Scenes,
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and Empire



ISSUE #66
Episode XI: The Clone Wars, Overview
of Episode II, Overview of the Jedi 20th
Anniversary, Behind the Scenes,
Exclusives of the Jedi 20th Anniversary
and Empire



ISSUE #67
Episode XII: The Clone Wars, Overview
of Episode II, Overview of the Jedi 20th
Anniversary, Behind the Scenes,
Exclusives of the Jedi 20th Anniversary
and Empire



ISSUE #68
Episode XIII: The Clone Wars, Overview
of Episode II, Overview of the Jedi 20th
Anniversary, Behind the Scenes,
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The fourth drawing represents one of the several stages in the creation of a new Luke Skywalker figure due out in the first half of 2004.

These ARE the Jedi Master Points You're Looking For!

By starwars.hasbro.com

» For those who weren't able to make it to the conventions Hasbro attended this summer, here's a recap of the company's news.

Since 1999, Jedi Master Points have been printed on our Star Wars packaging, and many fans have asked when they would be able to use them for something. Hasbro's response is to launch Jedi Master Point Auctions where Jedi Master Points will be the "currency." The auction site will be created on eBay and will be open to registered users of starwars.hasbro.com. Hard-to-find items such as the R2-D2 Astromech Droid that was available last fall will be up for auction. Also look for very limited quantities of special promotional figures like Jorg Söcul and Toy Fair Darth Vader.

The auctions are scheduled to run for three months beginning in September. After the three-month trial period, the program will be evaluated. Because we don't know if further auctions will take place, this may be the only opportunity to ever use Jedi Master Points, so don't save them for something in the future! The total number of auctions will be limited, so bid early.

In toy news, Hasbro's basic figures will be combined into one collection in 2004, and the plan is to release a new wave each month, with three to four new figures per wave. The themes for the first five waves and some examples of figures planned for that wave are listed in the sidebar (as always, this far in advance everything is subject to change).



Coming in 2004:

Wave 1—Hoth
Luke Skywalker,
Wampa Cave

Wave 2—Tatooine
Luke Skywalker, *Return of the Jedi*

Wave 3—Jabba's Palace

Wave 4—Battle of Yavin
Captain Antilles (Fans' Choice #5)
General Dodonna (close runner-up to Antilles)

Wave 5—Star Destroyer
Dengar (with backpack)

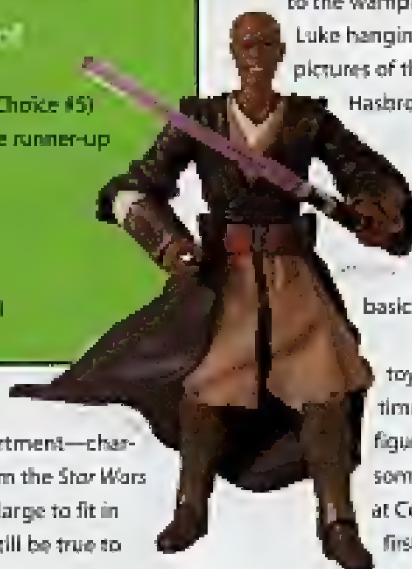
the 3-3/4" scale. There are seven figures in total, which will be available only in the spring at a deluxe figure price point. Where possible, the figures will fit into one of the basic figure themes.

Coming in the first wave of Ultra figures is the wampa. This figure comes with part of the wampa cave, which interlocks with the base that comes with Luke. If you snap Luke into his base, and then connect Luke's base to the wampa's cave, you can have Luke hanging upside down. Look for pictures of these great toys soon on Hasbro's website.

As mentioned in *Insider* 70, Jabba the Hutt will be part of the second wave of Ultra figures and will tie in with Wave 3 of the basic figures (Jabba's Palace).

Some great upcoming toys were shown for the first time this summer. In the basic figure line, Hasbro debuted some new Clone Wars figures at Comic-Con, including the first look at Asajj Ventress and

In 2004, Hasbro will also introduce the "Ultra" assortment—characters and accessories from the Star Wars universe that are just too large to fit in the basic figure line and still be true to



Mace Windu who will both be featured in the *Clone Wars* animated micro-series on Cartoon Network starting November 7.

Sticking with the *Clone Wars* theme, Wizard World gave Hasbro the chance to show the last two items in the multipack line—Durge with Speeder Bike and Clone Trooper with Speeder Bike.

Also on display were some basic figures from Collection 2, including Bail Organa with Obi-Wan Kenobi hologram projector, and Padmé Amidala with cloak and Tatooine base from *Attack of the Clones*. Fans also got a first look at one of the two Imperial Dignitaries, Janus Greejatus.

Other items on display for the first time included the second wave of the Scene Packs. The second set of the Jedi High Council features Depa Billaba, Yaddle, and Yarael Poof from *The Phantom Menace*. The second set of the Geonosian War Room, which connects with the first set to complete the battle review table, includes Nute Gunray, Passel Argente, and Shu Mai.

Having a hard time finding figures?

Finding basic figures at retail has obviously been a challenge so far this year, and many people have been confused by it.

The good news is that finding figures should be a little easier in autumn. All major retailers will be carrying *Clone Wars* and *Saga* figures. However, not all retailers will carry other *Clone Wars* items. For example, you won't find *Clone Wars* vehicles at Wal-Mart or Kmart, and you won't find *Clone Wars* multipacks at Wal-Mart. You should be able to find all *Clone Wars* items at Target, Toys "R" Us, K-B and other toy and mass retailers.

As with the *Clone Wars* vehicles, Wal-Mart and Kmart will not be carrying the Scene Packs. Look for these at Target, Toys "R" Us and other toy and mass retailers.

Unleashed figures will be carried by Toys "R" Us, K-B Toys, and smaller chains.

Be sure to check starwars.hasbro.com for the latest information on all of these new toys. Until next time, may the Force be with you! 🌟

1. The second wave of the Scene Packs includes the Jedi High Council from *The Phantom Menace*. The second set of the Geonosian War Room, which connects with the first set to complete the battle review table, includes Nute Gunray, Passel Argente, and Shu Mai.

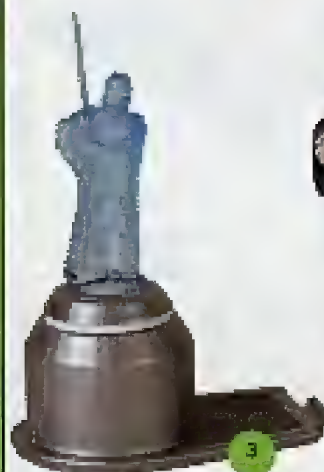
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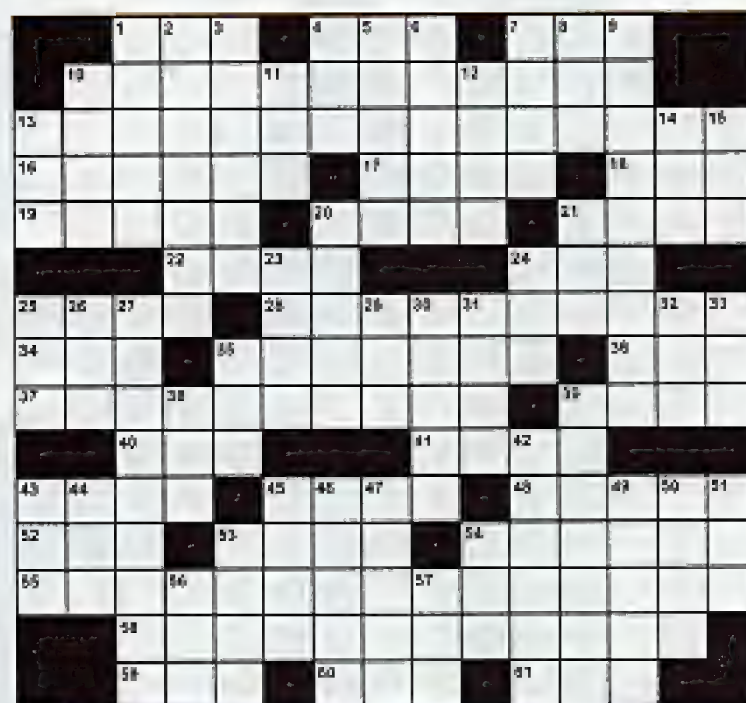


MORE SONGS OF THE MOS EISLEY CANTINA

by Mike Selinker

ACROSS

- 1 Chain that gave out Amidala cups
- 4 Morgue tag abbreviation
- 7 Escape from L.A. actress Grier
- 10 Todd Rundgren single that's a call to Anglin?
- 13 Bobby Freeman 45 that's the new Toylander step?
- 16 Film like Troops and George Lucas is Love
- 17 21-mile asteroid near Earth
- 18 Part of TIE
- 19 It's mixed with gin
- 20 Ocean Spray drink prefix
- 21 TLC member born Deanne Watkins
- 22 Ex-ruler of Iran
- 24 X-Wing series freighter captain ____ Nooka
- 25 Iron ____ (X-Wing series novel)
- 28 Bee Gees hit about a Grand Mal's disco past?
- 34 Star Wars Gangsta ____ (OT Atom film)
- 35 Discontinued action figure item
- 36 Nowhere scorer Brian
- 37 Kenny Loggins tune on the real way to be a red-faced Sith Lord?
- 39 Q-Y connection
- 40 Ex-stuntman Park
- 41 Bar ____ (Cherise in OuterSpace)
- 43 Multi-country, far short
- 45 Jackie of Shanghai Noon
- 48 "____, we are all equal in the presence of death" (Publius Syrus)
- 52 Back to the future's Thompson
- 53 Thunder God
- 54 Shrimp dish
- 55 Wilson Pickett classic about Calrissian's matty moves?
- 58 Thompson Twins song of the Solo twins' complaint to Mom about Dad's wrestling?
- 59 "Oh, he's not dead, not ____" (Ben, on Obi-Wan)
- 62 "Action-Detoo, where ____ you?" (C-3PO)
- 63 Instrument heard in the Cantina number



DOWN

- 1 Target
- 2 Madonna Lata's front business in Children of the Jedi
- 3 Grab, as Vader does mentally
- 4 ____ Pessak (Wraith four in 25-Across)
- 5 Mammal like the Tynnon species
- 6 Ad ____ per opera ("To the stars with difficulty")
- 7 Major dogs
- 8 "Then I ____ Jedi?" (Luke)
- 9 What many fans simulated the Ender chase on
- 10 Hassess treat
- 11 Pental comments
- 12 "____ will I rest" (Yoda, dying)
- 13 When clocks get set back, briefly
- 14 Talk like a dove
- 15 New wave band Split ____
- 20 Tex-Mex favorite
- 21 Blacktop material
- 23 Slightly open
- 24 Delay on starwars.com
- 25 It's before San
- 26 "____ your father?" (Key Empire line)
- 27 Decorated like Old Ben's home
- 28 ____ out (nest)
- 30 ____ Frame ('92 Neeson film)
- 31 Maken lace
- 32 DB mistake
- 33 "____-turn"
- 35 Like Solo
- 38 Major Right co
- 39 Arquette of More American Graffiti
- 42 Trees that give us chocolate
- 43 Like Mara Jade in most of the New Jedi Order novels
- 44 Teachers' grp.
- 45 Grassy "pet"
- 46 Silly blather
- 47 Extremely noisy
- 48 2,910 in Roma
- 50 Musketeer sword
- 51 Ex-Serbian capital
- 53 "See ____ personally, Commander" (Vader)
- 54 Patty Hearst's terrorist grp
- 56 Billy ____ Williams
- 57 "The Force is strong with this ____" (Vader)



Answers

1. Chain of command
4. Morgue tag abbreviation
7. Escape from L.A. actress Grier

What, you couldn't spring for a green paint job? And you call yourself a fan!

Pilot Error

I'm in the middle of reading *The New Jedi Order* series and have gotten to *Rebel Dredin* by Aaron Allston. Who is the guy in the XJ X-wing on the cover? I know it's not Luke, but could it be Corran Horn or Wedge Antilles?

LAURA BRIDGES
CANTON, MI

The name's Antilles. Wedge Antilles.

Dittohead

I wanted to say "ditto" to Melissa Lye's letter in Issue 469. I was thrilled to see a fellow female Fett-lover! I was beginning to wonder! Down with Windu the Windbag! Long live the Fettsters!

GABRIELLE BRETZIN
RIXEYVILLE, VA

We'd defend the mighty Mace, but all we'll say is that we expect he'll go out in glorious fashion in Episode III. He'll have a far more heroic fare than being accidentally knocked into the Sarlacc pit by a blind opponent, we'll wager.

Talking Star Wars

It's amazing how much *Star Wars* lingo we incorporate into everyday life. It even affects our soldiers on deployment. I am a sergeant in the U.S. Army currently serving in Baghdad. So far on this deployment, I've seen an M1-A1 battle tank commander who they teasingly call Obi-Wan; there's a cor-

poral in my unit who got the name Chewbacca after taking off his shirt; and there's an annoying Iraqi kid we call Ewok. Two soldiers were arguing over whose weapon was better when another came out and said, "I've got you both beat." Then he took up a stick and made the sound of a lightsaber.

I even heard a lieutenant say, "Punch it, Chewie," when he wanted his driver to go faster.

And although I doubt it's [always] a reference to *Star Wars*, I have to smile every time I hear someone say, "I've got a bad feeling about this."

Also, of course, any time someone is doing anything strenuous and it shows, someone will tell him to use the Force.

MICHAEL EASTER
BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Tributes

A fair while ago, in an issue of *Insider* not so far away, the magazine ran an article on *Star Wars* movie tributes detailing how the Classic Trilogy immersed itself in popular culture. I came across another movie that had its own clip of the hat to *Star Wars*. The film is called *Asterix et Obélix: Mission Cleopatre* and was released in France about two years ago. I was sitting at home watching the movie when I heard Darth Vader's breathing and the "Imperial March" in the music. That happens when Caesar's general walks into the shot, and his helmet is shaped exactly like Vader's. I laughed my



Like Father, Like Sons

These two attached two pieces of fan art by young men. The first is by Colson, age 6. He drew based on "Obi-Wan and Master Jinn Fighting Darth Maul." The second is "Obi-Wan vs. Darth Maul" by Klender, age 7.1 would think have been inspired by the 1999 movie "Obi-Wan." Both love time, by their love of all things *Star Wars* obviously, through their dad.

LESLIE BASHON
DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

head off and thought it was a good nod to my favorite series of movies. Being a committed fan all my life, I thought the in-joke was way cool. The film is worth a look if you can get hold of a copy on DVD as I did when a friend of mine sent it over from her native France.

Any more *Star Wars* tributes out there that haven't been recognized yet? I hope there are. Anyway, your magazine is great. Keep up the good work, and may the Force be with you.

DARRAN SYKES

LEEDS, ENGLAND

*While we haven't seen the film, we heartily endorse any film that includes Monica Bellucci in the cast. Another *Star Wars* movie reference article is always possible, but until then we'll rely on keen-eyed readers to tip us off to new ones.*

Unchain My Ewok

I just wanted to send you a picture that Wayne Pinks, a friend of mine, took with Warwick Davis in Hammond, LA. Mr. Davis was doing a part in a movie about the life of Ray Charles. Unchain my



Heart. I do not recall the part Mr. Davis is portraying, but it casts Jamie Fox as Ray Charles. If you have any insight about Mr. Davis' part, I would like to read about it in "Star Sightings."

CHRISTEN D. WHIDDON
INDEPENDENCE, LA

First of all, Issue #69 was amazing. As a huge Mystery Science Theater 3000 fan, I was glad to see a brief mention of them, and I enjoyed the Star Wars music section. I miss the Jawa Trader a bit, though I only ever browsed the figures. I want to see some sort of column to display fan art and poetry, maybe even short fan fiction, so you can lift the poetry ban for that section. Second of all, I'm glad I subscribe... *Bantha Tracks* alone is worth it.

As a female fan, I'm glad to see the support from that end. As an original trilogy buff, however, I'd like to see more from that time period, and as a bounty hunter fan, a "Who's Who" would be nice... you could throw in prequel bounty hunters as well... even some Expanded Universe bounty hunters. That, or something on Jedi. I was amazed by "Fight Saber" (#62) and was a bit disappointed at only highlighting sixteen Jedi (in the Jedi Council article). Maybe something on the Force.

MARISSA WILK
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Excellent suggestions all, Marissa. Consider them officially placed on



our wish-list for next year, especially the bounty hunters and dark side topics... but maybe not the poetry. Dave still hasn't recuperated from the beatings from his less erudite colleagues.

Book 'Em

I loved your Issue commemorating the 20th anniversary of Return of the Jedi. Yes, I know this is late, but unfortunately my mailbox was overlooked for this issue and I had to ask for a copy. Actually, I love all of your issues, but as a first-generation Star Wars geek, I am particularly interested in the original trilogy that I grew up with. I also love reading Star Wars books, both fiction and nonfiction. In my view (and we know there is more than one point of view), you could make an already great magazine even greater by including more original trilogy stuff and more features on Star Wars books.

CATHERINE MELCHIOR
SEATTLE, WA

More good suggestions, and we hope you've enjoyed both the clas-

sic cover to this issue, as well as revisiting one of the Classic Trilogy's stars. Look for more coverage of the Star Wars books—along with more new fiction—in upcoming issues. Speaking of books and more good ideas...

Who's That Author?

I always get excited when my *Insider* arrives. I love how the magazine is so well rounded. What surprises me the most is that I like the technical articles just as well as the wonderful short fiction. Have you guys ever considered doing a "Who's Who" article about Star Wars authors? I think it'd be fun to learn about the great minds that keep the Star Wars universe expanding.

Also, I want to encourage everyone to read *New Jedi Order* or various *Clone Wars* novels, it'll help during the long, agonizing wait for Episode III!

JULIE GILBERT
BRANCHBURG, NJ

While "Bookshelf" offers a good "Who's Who" of authors over time, collecting them into a single rogues gallery sounds like a lot of fun.

Caption Goof

First off I would like to state that Issue #69 has been my favorite issue to date. Both the article on American Graffiti and the upcoming Indiana Jones Trilogy DVDs were very informative. Timothy

Zahn has done another brilliant piece of work with the Hero of Cartao stories. The Republic HoloNet and CIS Shadowfeed are always one of my favorites. But, I think there is a mistake on page 37. The caption next to Wolfman Jack's picture says that the Wolfman gave advice to Terry the Toad. Didn't Wolfman give advice to the character Curt in the movie?

CHRISTEN D. WHIDDON
INDEPENDENCE, LA

Doh! The body of the article correctly identifies Curt as the recipient of Wolfman's wisdom. The caption is incorrect.

Back in the Fold

I have to admit, although I was a superfan when I was a kid, I have been away from the Star Wars universe for a long time. With my joining of the Fan Club at Celebration II last year, I got back into it. Thanks to eBay, I have purchased a copy of every *Insider* published (as well as three of the Lucasfilm Fan Club magazines.) And over the last year I have read every one of them cover to cover, which is a daunting task to say the least.

Regarding Issue #67 and your "Nine most unforgettable lines from Return of the Jedi." I'd have to say that "Now witness the fire-power of this fully armed and operational battlestation!" easily beats out half of the lines you chose.

I like the look of Issue #69 with the titles on the side of the page. That's a nice touch. I can't believe that there won't be any location shooting for Episode III (as noted on page 6). I thought for sure that they would visit Tunisia again, and we would learn how Luke ended up with Owen and Beru, especially since Joel (Edgerton) and Bonnie (Plesse) have been cast for Episode III.

DOUG KINNEY
ANKENY, IA



Growing Up With Star Wars

In *Insider* #66, you invited readers to send photos evidencing the influence of *Star Wars* across the years and generations—here are some photos that shouldadden your hearts, starting with (1) my son David in 1978, at age 5—as Darth Vader for Halloween (Dads insist for the photo), (2) enjoying his Death Star toy, and best of all, (3) meeting a local Darth Vader. Note the ragging.

Fast forward 25 years, and here is David (4) coming home from the fight in Iraq. The time with a real gun. Let's just think that *Star Wars* just for kids, enclosed are photos of me (5) in 1981 and 1983 meeting the real Darth Vader while playing hooky from work, and again (6) in 1992 with local actors at the Episode II charity premiere in NYC. Our entire family is looking forward to *Episode III*.

Marlynn Crumrey



As Long As They Spell Your Name Right

Thank you for mentioning my parody song "The *Star Wars* Cantina" in issue 69's "Skyrockers" article. I truly appreciate your generous support. Unfortunately, you misspelled my name, and I would

appreciate a correction since fans regularly search online for me and my song.

"The *Star Wars* Cantina" parody song first hit the airwaves in 1997, and I am amazed and grateful that to this day I still receive daily emails from kind fans asking about the song. All

of their questions can be answered on-line in "MID's Intergalactic Comedy Hacienda" at www.ideatown.com/mich.

MARK JONATHAN DAVIS
DANTOINE

Much More Music

Just picked up issue #69 and was very interested in the "Skyrockers" *Star Wars* music article. I know of another one that wasn't mentioned.

It's a song by Gibo Matto on their *Stereotype A* CD called "Sci-Fi Wasabi." It includes the lines "Obi-Wan Kenobi is waiting for me in Union Square" and "Obi-Wan Kenobi told me in the lobby." It's a really cool song by a great group.

Thanks for putting out a great magazine!

BRET TAYLOR
LENEXA, KS

Change of Seasons

I recently flipped through the current *Insider* and found a section devoted to the music related to the *Star Wars* universe. I quickly sped through the list of bands and song names hoping to find one of my favorites. I was happy to find [it] listed, unfortunately with the wrong name. Your magazine named them "New Season," when in fact the name is Next Season. The band is related to *Star Wars* with more than just their album being titled *A New Hope*. They have *Star Wars* tattoos, their lyrics remind you of

the movies, and even their band name is a slight reference, because Luke can't leave for the academy until . . . Next Season.

CHRIS GOODBREAD
LARGO, FL

The Location of the Rebel Base

I know the Fighting 501st is a Imperial-type group, and I've visited their website. Do they accept "Rebels," or are there Rebel groups out there? From what I've seen on their website, they don't, but every time they get a picture taken of them somewhere, there's a couple of Jedi or X-wing pilots stashed in with them. What's the deal with this?

BRIAN FULTON
WACO, TX

Of course the Fighting 501st "accepts" Rebels. They even have special accommodations picked out just for you. If you prefer less restrictive quarters, however, the coordinates you desire are rebellegion.com. ☺

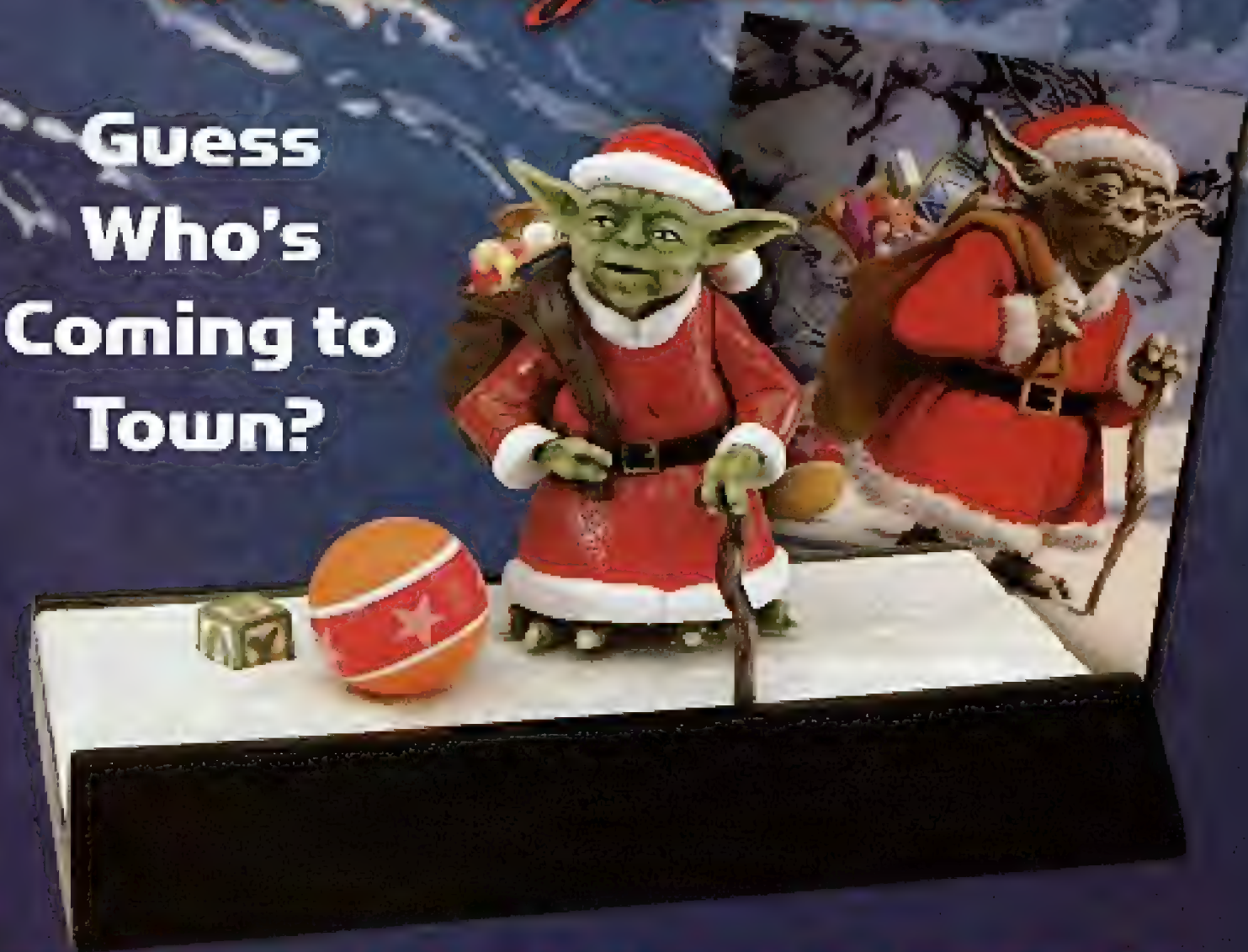


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MORE SONGS OF THE
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STAR WARS

Holiday Edition

**Guess
Who's
Coming to
Town?**



Hasbro, Lucasfilm Ltd., and the Official Star Wars Fan Club

are delighted to present the second in a series of *Star Wars* Holiday Edition commemorative figures. Inspired by the artwork of renowned concept artist Ralph McQuarrie, this specially designed figure captures the vision of McQuarrie's art in collectible 3-3/4" action figure scale. Dressed as Santa, Yoda comes with a display base and a full-sized holiday greeting card featuring McQuarrie's artwork.

Members of the Official *Star Wars* Fan Club can visit starwars.paizo.com and sign up for a Lightspeed Pass that shoots them to the front of the line when this limited-edition figure goes on sale. Remember, last year's edition sold out quickly at retail. In September, we'll offer the figure to members of the Official Fan Club with Lightspeed Passes first, then to other Fan Club members and members of Hyperspace at starwars.com. In October, if any figures are still available, we'll extend the offer to non-members.

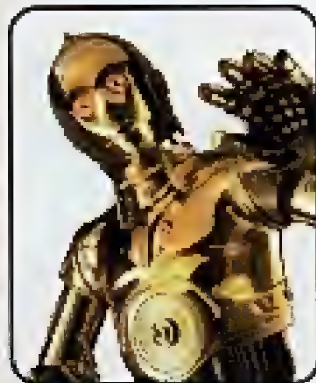
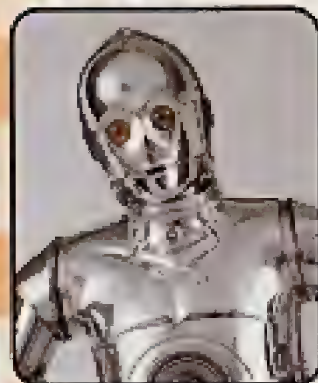
The *Star Wars* Holiday Edition Yoda offer is limited to three per person, so go to starwars.paizo.com to get your Lightspeed Pass today.

Answers to Your Star Wars Questions

with Pablo Hidalgo, Internet Content Provider for starwars.com

In *Attack of the Clones* when Anakin is mourning at his mother's gravesite, why are there three tombstones instead of just one? Also, why don't we see this gravesite when we return to the Lars homestead again in *A New Hope*? Did the Jawa sandcrawler run it over?

Inside Attack of the Clones, published by DK, revealed the three tombstones belonged to members of Cliegg's family: Greeda and Lef Lars, his parents, share a grave, while his younger brother Edem, who died at the age of 14, has the smaller tombstone. Later, Owen Lars removed the tombstones to help keep some of these tragedies away from Luke.



Why are identifications for protocol droids not always alike? For instance, C-3PO and TC-14, two protocol droids of identical appearance except for their plating colors, have a different number and order of letters and numbers in their identifications.

Way back in *Insider* #58, I answered a question regarding droid names. The letter-number combination found in droid names would seem to be very limiting given the countless droids churned out by the major galactic corporations. In truth, a droid's name is usually a long jumble of letters and numbers that denote its serial number, with the spoken names usually derived by the numbers that define its model type. In the case of 3PO-series protocol droids, there was a lengthy production run that saw the introduction of newer features and skill-sets. When Cybot Galactica introduced the TranLang III Communications center in their droid line, they took special care to highlight this feature by including the letters TC in the serial number. The early droids in this series were often referred to by a TC prefix, like TC-14 and TC-3, seen in *Episode I*. These droids are quite good at operating calmly under pressure, and almost all of them have a feminine demeanor.

Why do both Leia's and Padmé's voices go from British accents to normal American accents?

It was definitely a stylistic choice, as opposed to a mistake that crept into both performances. Take note of when their voices shift accent: when addressing politicians or people of stature. In Leia's case, it's when she talks to Grand Moff Tarkin, and for Padmé, when she is in her formal Queen Amidala role. It would seem that some *Star Wars* cultures have a proper "court voice" that politicians adopt instead of the inflection and delivery that they would use in casual conversation. If you know any public speakers, you can see this to a lesser effect—public speaking is often modified for greater impact. One

could imagine that politicians as young as Leia and Padmé would have extra pressure to sound stately given their ages.



In *Star Wars*, C-3PO says, "There'll be no hope for the Princess this time." When Luke asks who the girl in the hologram is, however, C-3PO replies, "A person of some importance, I believe." If he knew of Leia, why didn't he recognize her? The radio dramatization of *A New Hope* holds the answer to this query. Right before Darth Vader's *Star Destroyer* attacks *Tatooine IV*, Captain Antilles recruits his droids, R2-D2 and C-3PO, to help Princess Leia. He enacts a voice-override command protocol that allows Threepio to supersede his ethical programming that would ordinarily keep him from lying in order to carry out important tasks. Antilles commanded both Artoo and Threepio to restrict and protect all reference to Leia's identity and presence aboard the *Tatooine IV*.



In *Episode I*, Obi-Wan has a lightsaber with little things sticking out at the bottom. Then he loses it in the battle with Darth Maul. In *Episode II* he has the exact same one. Did he go get it from the endless core pit, or is this a movie mistake?

The *Attack of the Clones* Scrapbook from Scholastic reveals that Obi-Wan reconstructed his lightsaber to his favored specifications, so the one he has in *Episode II* is a near-duplicate of his *Episode I* weapon. I'm sure that, in real life, Ewan McGregor's handpicking of that particular design probably played a role in its return.



British



American

Why are there orange lightsabers for sale? I don't remember seeing any in the movie.

Lucas Licensing and Hasbro made the decision to widen the color palette of toy lightsabers to provide the greatest diversity in role-playing fun. Sure, kids love to pretend they're Mace, Anakin or Darth Maul, but some kids want to be their own Jedi or Sith, and the new colors allow for that.

In the theatrical release of *A New Hope* Special Edition, there was a scene in the desert of Tatooine that showed an Imperial troop transport craft taking off as the detachment was looking for droids. In the video, the transport craft was removed, and I haven't seen it since.

It sounds like you're watching a full screen version of the Special Edition, not the widescreen version. The Sentinel-class shuttle is visible in the widescreen version. That's the version that has the black bars on the top and bottom of the image to properly fit the whole rectangular image into your squarish TV screen. In a full screen image, almost a third of the picture is chopped off the sides to cram that visual info into a TV-shape, and the landing craft was a casualty of that cropping.



What is the mysterious red gas coming out of Darth Maul when Obi-Wan slices him in half? Does this have to do with the Force or Maul's physiology? Or is it something else?

That red mist is meant to suggest a puff of boiling blood that escaped from Maul's severed torso just before the lightsaber blade cauterized the deadly wound.

In *A New Hope*, I found an error in the added scene with Jabba and Han. At the end of the scene, Han says, "Jabba, you are a wonderful human being." Jabba is a Hutt. Is this an uncaught error from original filming, because Jabba was portrayed by an actor? Or was this supposed to happen?

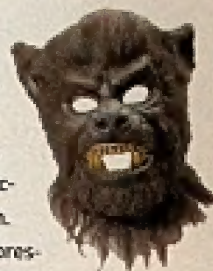
That's classic Solo sarcasm, not an error. Yes, Jabba was originally portrayed by a human actor, but it was never Lucas' intent to keep

the actor in the finished frame. The screenplay for *A New Hope* describes Jabba as a "fat, slug-like creature with eyes on extended feelers and a huge ugly mouth." Lucas had always intended to replace the human stand-in with something, but that something didn't become available until a couple decades later. If you watch *From Star Wars to Jedi: The Making of a Saga*, a documentary from 1983, there's a storyboard frame of what a possible creature superimposed over the actor might look like. It wasn't until the digital innovations of ILM's computer animators in the mid-1990s that adding the proper Jabba into frame was possible.

I noticed between the original release and the Special Edition of *A New Hope* the "Wolfman" (Lak Sivrak) was removed from the cantina scene.

Why was this?

There were actually two different wolfmen cut from the cantina. The first one was the shadowy creature with the glowing red eyes. He's been established as a Defel alien. The second was Lak Sivrak, the Shistavanen Wolfman.



When Lucas was rushing under extreme pressures of schedule and budget to complete *A New Hope*, the cantina sequence ended up being one of his greatest laments. He felt he had to compromise too much to bring it onto the silver screen. The original makeup man was ill during the shoot and unable to complete enough masks. Lucas was able to get some extra money to add to the sequence, shooting booth-based aliens to create the illusion of a more crowded, more exotic cantina, but even in this he had to cut corners.

To meet the demands of time and money, the makeup artists had to use pre-existing masks to fill out the scene. This included a pair of Wolfmen (more accurately, a Wolfman and a Hyena-man). Since they were pre-existing, they were created outside of Lucas' sphere of control. Though he approved their use, he was never very happy with how derivative they appeared. When the Special Edition came out, he had an opportunity to replace the anthropomorphized animals with something truly otherworldly in the form of Melas and Ketwol.

It's worth noting, though, that even these new additions were crafted with tight budgets in mind. Melas' mask is actually the back of the Ketwol mask! 🐾

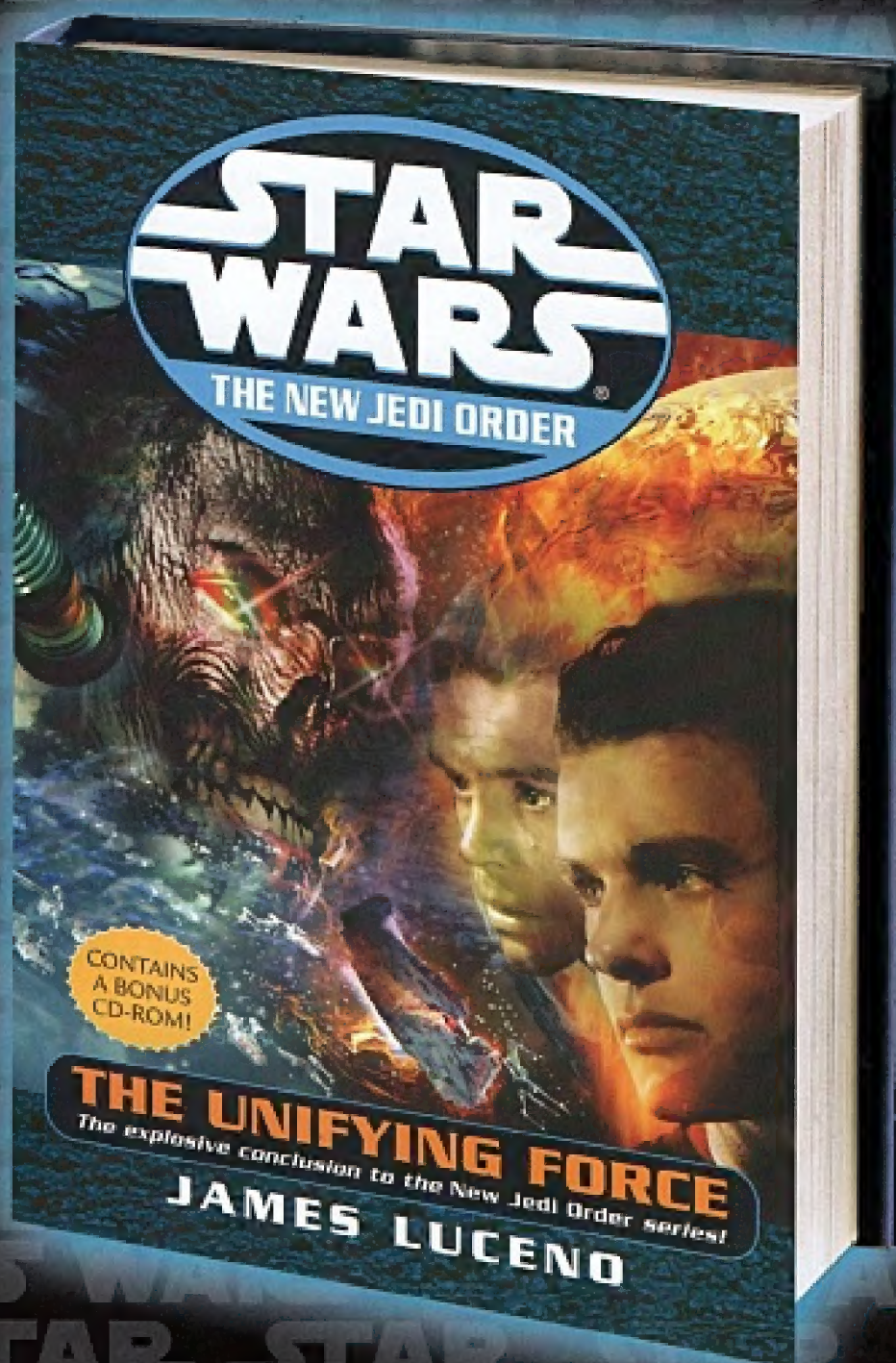


Questions?

Do you have a Star Wars trivia question that you can't find the answer to? E-mail it to us at QandA@paloo.com or send it to STAR WARS INSIDER, ATTN: Q&A, 3245 146th Place SE, Suite 110, Bellevue, WA 98007.



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